**1st UXBRIDGE BOYS’ BRIGADE**

**COMPANY REPORT 2015/2016**

Once again another year has passed us by and it is time to look back on the year we have had.

As usual each section has been busy.

**In our Anchor Section** they have once again enjoyed some fun things on a Friday evening. Starting the year with only a few boys we have had a steady increase and finish the year with 6, although we are promoting two of those into Junior Section.

They joined the in the Battalion 10 pin bowling outing with the rest of the company and had a good time.

This year the boys have also been doing some simple gymnastics once a month

We have been helped again this year by some of the young leaders from GB who have made it possible to continue to provide our varied programme and have worked very well with the boys. A huge thank you to them all for their help.

We are promoting two boys this year Jakub Wilkwski and Elias Hamzie and we hope the enjoy their time in Juniors. This will mean there will be plenty of space for more boys next year.

**In our Junior Section** the boys have enjoyed another good year with plenty of varied activities.

As usual they have enjoyed their regular monthly gym session although unfortunately this year, due to circumstances our friends at 4th Hillingdon have not been able to join us.

Unfortunately, this year we could not have our usual trip to the Lord Mayors show as the date clashed with our Battalion show, so the boys took part in that. We were also once again part of the procession through Uxbridge to turn on the Christmas lights.

Our boys took part in the usual competitions again this year with the main competitions being the Bible Quiz (in December) and the Figure Marching & Simple Drill Competition (in March). We had a team of three boys enter the Bible quiz, a competition that in the past we had had some success in. Not expecting much, the boys duly answered their questions and at the end of the quiz came out as winners. The other main competition, the Figure Marching and Simple Drill is one that we have been most successful in over the recent years. The boys start practicing their marching early on in the year and by the time the competition comes around they are pretty competent. This year was no exception and, although the boys just missed out on winning again (So close again!!) the three 1st year junior boys did win the simple drill competition. You will have seen both of these in our display. The two trophies now stand proudly in our trophy cabinet in the church.

In May they had our annual Sleepover along with the girls and again enjoyed a good time together. This year we visited Kidzania in the Westfield shopping centre at Shepherds Bush, a mini city for Children.

This year the Juniors will be saying goodbye to Alexander and Thomas who are being promoted into Company section and we wish them all the best as they continue their time in BB.

We welcome Jakub and Elias into Juniors from the Anchor Section and we hope that they will enjoy their time with us.

**Our Company and Senior Section** have had a good year. They have continued to work through their Discover, Badge programme with various activities including one week, a Bake Off challenge, the boys had to make cakes and the captain got to judge them (The job does have its perks now and again!) well done to Nathan for winning that one. They have also enjoyed monthly gym nights as well as the Anchors and Juniors.

Visits and other activities have included a day at the Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre were the boys did High ropes activities in the morning and water activities in the afternoon.

They joined the GB for a visit to the Battle of Britain Bunker, and paid a visit to the Mayor’s Parlour where they were shown into the council chamber and got to ask the Mayor questions ‘Council style’ This was a great evening and the boys were made very welcome the Mayor, Cllr George Cooper (a one-time member of our company).

The boys visited there again later on in the year to present a Boys’ Brigade plaque to the Mayors parlour on behalf of our Battalion.

James, our Senior boy has continued to work hard on his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award and hopes to complete this over the Summer.

Tyler was presented with his Jack Petchey Medallion at the presentation event at Kensington Town Hall and this year we have nominated Nathan Cox to receive the award. He has asked for the money we receive (£200) to be spent on radio controlled cars.

We can now look forward to September and welcome both Alexander and Thomas into the Section.

**In the Company Together** We have continued to hold our usual Coffee mornings at Christ Church and this session have raised £325 for company funds. A big thank you to those who have helped out, (especially Mrs Bowman) and have made cakes for us to sell.

We again collected Sainsbury’s Active Kids vouchers, managing to get together around 2400 in all. This was a few down on last year but never the less a good amount. These will be ‘cashed in’ for a portable music centre, some more cooking equipment and a few other bits and pieces. Thank you to everyone for shopping at Sainsbury’s.

You may remember that after our July Church Parade we planted a shrub and fixed a plaque at the rear of the Church in a small raised garden. If you get a chance take a look at it now, the boys (and Mr Hinton) have spent some time looking after it and adding plants.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has been involved with us over the past year. Thank you to all the staff, Louise & Graeme Moran, Alan Hollaway, and Denise & Graham Hinton for all they have done over the past year. Thank you too to Peter Coles and Derek Nickolls for giving up their time once a month to come down and take gym for the boys.

A big thank you too to all parents for your support throughout the year, for bringing the boys along on a Friday evening and for getting them to various activities. As I have said in the past, and will continue to say, I consider our company very lucky that we have parents who support us the way that you do. Thank you too to our chaplain Nick and to members of Christ Church for your support and prayers throughout the year.

**THANK YOU ALL.**

As this year draws to an end we look forward to the 2016/17 session and all it brings.

Don’t forget you can keep up with all our news at our website **www.**[**1uxbridge.boys-brigade.org.uk**](http://1uxbridge.boys-brigade.org.uk/)or on our Facebook page at **1st Uxbridge Boys Brigade Company.** And on twitter **@1stuxbridgebb**

***Also if you are an ‘online shopper’ you can order through the Easy Fundraising web site (at no extra cost) and the company will benefit every time you purchase. Ask for more details***

**Our new session starts on**

 **Friday 9th September 2016 - (Juniors)**

 **Friday 16th September 2016 - (Anchors & Company)**

**Have a good summer and thank you**

**for your continued support.**

**Paul m. Edgeworth**

**COMPANY CAPTAIN**