**1st UXBRIDGE BOYS’ BRIGADE**

**COMPANY REPORT 2017/2018**

Another year has passed so it is time once again to look back on the past year and reflect what we have been up to.

As usual it has been a busy time for us all.

**Our Anchor Section** Unfortunately, this year we have been without an Anchor Section due to our staffing situation. Mrs Moran, our Anchor boy leader was unable to continue with the section and also the number of regular boys had fallen to a few boys a week making it difficult. It is our aim to re start the Section next session so if there is anyone willing to lend a hand please come and see me.

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

Our boys took part in the usual few competitions we have in the Battalion, with the main ones 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 won in the previous **two years**, so this year we were going for a **third**. Once again, the boys duly answered their questions and at the end of the quiz came out as winners. Our trophy can be seen in the trophy cabinet in the vestibule of the Church. Our other main competition, the Figure Marching is another one that we have been successful in over the recent years. The boys start practicing their marching early in the year and by the time the competition comes around they are pretty competent. Unfortunately, this year we only had 6 boys attend and so we depended on the generosity of another company to ‘lend us some boys’. However even with this slight handicap we still managed to gain second place, and only ONE POINT behind the winners. As many of you will have seen at our recent display they are all a very smart bunch.

In May the boys joined together with the girls for our annual Sleepover and enjoyed a good time together. This year we visited the London Canal Museum where they all made Victorian ice cream and took a trip on the canal through the Islington tunnel.

This year we will be saying goodbye to Luke and Jaime who are being promoted into Company section and we wish them all the best as they continue their time in BB. (Hopefully with their smart marching they will be a great asset to the Drill squad).

Unfortunately, due to having no Anchor Section we are unable to welcome any new boys into Juniors this year. This highlights how important it is to have an Anchor Section.

**In Our Company and Senior Section**  We have had another busy year.  Early in the new term, we had a trip to a local trampolining park for the evening.  In December, we had our Christmas trip to the ice cream parlour! The Spring term involved our second weekend trip on the Grand Union Canal.  This year we were joined by 3 other BB/GB companies (including our own GB Seniors!).  In terms of badgework, we've been busy!

* We used saws, dowling rods, electrical tape & scissors to create some circus equipment;
* We hosted our second annual fireworks display and we were delighted that some of the local community joined us for some soup and bread afterwards;
* We held our first 'Great BB bake off' in which the boys all made a dish and captain judged the winner (which was Nathan Cox)
* We had great fun with our remote-controlled helicopters & cars - we even played RC car football a few times. Check our Facebook page for photos of these activities!

We were blessed with a former member, Dmitriy, returning to the area and re-joining us for the second half of the session and this has really boosted the section.  Our senior boy, James, has been working hard on his Queen's badge and also found time to gain his Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award and is now part-way through his training to be a DofE assessor. He will be a true asset to the Company next year. James will be leaving the ranks of the boys next session as he will be 18 in August but is keen to continue in the company as a member of staff.

Unfortunately, we will be saying good bye to Tyler this year as he moves away with his family. We will miss his smiley face, and his cheeky ways. It has been good having him as part of our company, we thank him for his keen attitude and whish him well in the future. He will be missed.

It has once again been a good year and the attendance has been good which makes a big difference to all our activities.

We can now look forward to September and welcome Luke and Jaime into the Section.

**In the Company Together** We have continued to hold our usual Coffee mornings at Christ Church and this session have raised **£372** for company funds. A big thank you to those who have helped out, especially Mrs Bowman who has helped in the kitchen, and all those who have made cakes for us to sell, once again, a special mention must go to Mrs Newell, Luke and Nathan and Daniel’s nan, who has continued to provide us with top class cakes.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has been involved with us over the past year. Thank you to all the staff, Graeme Moran, Alan Hollaway, and Denise & Graham Hinton for all they have done over the past year. Thank you to Alan and Graham for their continued work with the Duke of Edinburgh achievement scheme and to Noellia Bowman for her help with both D of E and our coffee mornings.

Last but not least a big thank you 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 2018/19 session and all it brings. We pray that the following year will be a good one and we can continue to Advance Christs Kingdom among Boys.

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 7th September 2018**

**Have a good summer and thank you**

**for your continued support.**

**Paul m. Edgeworth**

**COMPANY CAPTAIN**