

Roundup



NEWSLETTER OF THE MANCHESTER REGIMENT OF THE CHURCH LADS' AND CHURCH GIRLS' BRIGADE

Regimental Staff Structure

ALL Brigade leaders need to be aware that we are trying to bolster up our teams of Battalion staff to spread the load and try to achieve a more efficient and effective organisation.

You should consider whether you can spare some time to assist your own Battalion staff.

They are not superhuman, have families of their own and probably have less time to spare than you do.

Each Battalion has a Commanding Officer in place, they have been asked to recruit or confirm the appointment of a Sports Officer, a Training Officer, an Adjutant and a Battalion Warrant Officer. Some of these functions can be undertaken by a Registered Helper, as a Co-ordinator and I do not consider that age bars anyone from expressing an interest.

Any organisation fails or prospers on the



calibre of staff it employs. As a Voluntary organisation we cannot recruit and "employ" someone who may be the best in their field but we can utilise any willing and enthusiastic help that is offered. I know that many of our leaders are totally committed to Brigade and as such what I am asking is for

more of the same. I'm not asking for very much, IF we can fill all the posts we will at least alleviate some of the pressure on those willing few who are shouldering the load at the moment. I know of many who are doing so under great personal stress and difficulty and if we do not pull together and assist them then we may end up being pulled apart.

I will say that I do not expect to be overwhelmed with volunteers; I rarely get a comment back from any of the Roundup publications. Perhaps I'm not direct enough. On this topic though, if we don't get volunteers I shall be ringing round and asking people to assist. We need your help!

How well known are you in your Church?

DOES this apply to you? As Brigade leaders we are called to be committed Christians, that was one of the proviso's when we were commissioned. If we are not regular communicant members of our Church then, for one, we are not setting the example to our members that we should and two, we are missing out on the support of our Christian Family members and the help and support that God can provide us with to ensure we succeed with His children. We cannot exist in isolation, that is when being a Brigade leader becomes hard work and everything seems an uphill struggle. I ask every Brigade leader in the Regiment to seek to become more active in your Church and seek the support it can offer you.

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What's missing?
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Regimental Camp

**Manchester Regimental
Outdoor Activity week
at ABERFOYLE, SCOTLAND
26th JULY – 2nd AUGUST 2014**

Come and enjoy a week of Fun, Adventure and Fellowship
THE COST IS ONLY - £300 or £290 (if you're under 15) all-inclusive.

If your Company doesn't go to camp come and join us.
We will take individual members for any Company in the UK.

Cost includes transport from Manchester

Race night!

COME AND ENJOY AN EVENING OF FUN AT ST JAMES GORTON
FRIDAY 14TH MARCH AT 7PM
TO RAISE FUNDS FOR REGIMENTAL CAMP

Brigade Association

Do you know about the Brigade Association. They work behind the scenes to help support the Brigade, raising money and providing support where it is needed. It would be great if we could assist them to assist us by getting one representative from each Battalion to represent you. Do you have a retired Leader who would be willing to join them and co-ordinate the local branch. If so let me know and we'll get the association back up and running in Manchester Regiment.

Did you know you can apply for grants from the Association to help with projects you may want to run but cannot finance?

Forms came out last year to explain the process.

Young Leader Training

THE Class of 2013 will be finishing their year long training on the 1st June this year. We hope that the five individuals who have undertaken the full course and the others who have been involved in elements of the training will be able, in time to endorse what we've done this year and encourage others to come forward next year.

We will be recruiting more Young Leaders over the summer with a view to commencing the 2014 Young Leaders Training Programme in September. If you have any leaders or potential leaders aged 16 to 25, in September then please, encourage them to sign up. We will be seeking funding again for this and hope to build on all our experiences from this year.

If you want to get some feedback from this years leaders speak to, or email, Vicky Taylor, Chris Hall or Christopher Walker from Manchester, Harriet Holloway from Leicester or Sarah Clarke from Chester.



Skills Training Day

Following the success of the last Training Day at Heyside last year, we've booked again to hold our annual Skills Training Day. Notices and Booking forms have gone out to all Companies and emails have also been circulated. Contact John Corbishley or Graham Procter if you need more information or Booking forms. Please book your place asap, courses are filling up and they are open to the rest of the Brigade Nationwide.

It will become mandatory for all Companies to have a First Aider present at all meeting nights soon and it is recommended that you have people trained in Food Hygiene when preparing food or refreshments. **ARE YOU COVERED?** If not book on the courses we are offering. Food Hygiene is an on-line course which we are hosting, but equally, you could do it in your own time at home. We can provide you with a licence for the course.

Also, if you need to complete your training assessment to get a Certificate of Leadership from NHQ, book a session with one of our assessors during the day. The short interview to discuss your level of experience will be all that's needed. You need to complete an APEL form and bring it with you.

**PLEASE, don't just turn up for any of the courses.
Book in or speak to one of us first.
We might save you a wasted journey.**

Regimental Returns and Fees

All CO's should have received the forms for their Annual return of Company numbers, Training records and Regimental fees. We have held our fees at 50p for Martins and £1 for all others again this year. Please ensure they are returned as soon as possible as we are already past the due date.

Brigade's Membership System (BMS) and NHQ returns

This month has seen a major innovation in the Brigades record keeping. The Brigade Membership System has been developed by our resident geek, (sorry Computer expert) Jason Greenwood at NHQ to record all our Leaders and members in order to satisfy our Insurers requirements. The system is in-house, secure and no-one outside Brigade will have access to your data. Only our CO's or their appointed and approved representative will be able to access the data for your Company. Only NHQ can commission Officers or register helpers. In future, Battalion and Regimental CO's will be able to access those CO's below them and Staff Officers on their team.

The system is there for you to use as much or a little as you need as long as you fulfill the minimum requirements and at the end of the day it will do your returns for you. If you have any questions take a look at the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) on-line, speak to NHQ or ask me. I am sure you'll get an answer from one of us.

General news...

Regimental Parade

I'm sorry to say that we do not have a date yet for our Regimental Parade for this year. Leaders have said they wish to return to St Ann's again this year. Our usual date was already booked for a wedding and all the alternatives were not really acceptable. Half term or Bank holidays, Fathers Day or Trinity Sunday we always hit something that would drastically reduce our numbers. I'll be speaking to the Rector when he gets back from his sabbatical in March to see what other dates we could hold it. It will also probably mean a slightly reduced parade as the Metrolink 2nd crossing of the city has started along Cross St and Corporation St. I'll keep you posted.

Fancy a Challenge?? Then try the TRAILTREKKER CHALLENGE

Trail magazine sponsoring the toughest Endurance Challenge in the Yorkshire Dales. A 40km, 85km or 100km circular off-road trek in the Yorkshire Dales 31st May / 1st June 2014.

For OXFAM: see www.oxfam.org.uk/trailtrekker for more details.

Disposal of Equipment by Timperley Companies

Colin Yates still has a large amount of equipment that he wishes to pass on to other Brigade units following the closure of Companies in Timperley. The list is available on the email version of this *Roundup*. There is a large amount of Band equipment, games, sports and camping equipment. Please contact Colin direct if you require any of the equipment. He asks for a donation to be made to the Brigade Association.

Skating at Spinningfields

On Sunday, December 15, 2013 a total of 42 young people and adults from St James' East Crompton attended the annual ice skating trip to Spinningfields in Manchester – an event we have been attending for approximately ten years and one which always proves popular.

We were again blessed by good weather for the duration of the session, in fact it was probably one of the warmest days of the month, and after around ten minutes of skating some people were peeling layers of clothing off as they were too warm. The same too could be said for some of the spectators – but this was probably caused by a glass or two of the mulled wine!

There were no injuries apart from a few bruised egos and the return of the rain at the end prompted a group to go to McDonalds in St Anne's Square to shelter and take advantage of the hospitality whilst another party had booked in at a local watering hole back in Shaw for drinks and food.

Another successful trip with the consensus being that we repeat the whole thing again this year.



Diary Dates

March 2014

- 1st Regimental Skills Training Day – St Marks Heyside
- 14th Race Night at St James Gorton - Camp fundraiser.
- 22nd Brigade Council Meeting at Wath-upon-Dearne
- 22nd Core Skills – Diocesan Training Course at Whitworth
- 25th Regimental Camp meeting

April 2014

- 12th Core Skills – Diocesan Training Course at Whitworth
- 13th Palm Sunday
- 18th Good Friday
- 20th Easter Sunday
- 26th Provisional Regimental Football and Netball
- 29th Regimental Commanders meeting

May 2014

- 3 – 5 Chester DofE Practice Silver expeditions
- 4th Provisional Teddy Bears Picnic
- 13th Regimental Camp meeting

- 16th Provisional Regimental Yteam Games
- 17th National Band Competition at Hinckley, Leicester.
- 23-25 Rydal Hall Leaders camping weekend Durham Regt.

June 2014

- 3rd Regimental Camp meeting
- 8th Whit Sunday
- 15th Trinity Sunday
- 22nd Provisional Martins Family fun day
- 27 – 29 Leicester Regiment's TGA2 training course and Officers camp.

July 2014

- 1st Regimental Commanders meeting
- 4 – 7 Chester DofE Qualifying Silver expeditions
- 5th Provisional Regimental Sports
- 12th Brigade Council meeting
- 15th Regimental Camp meeting
- 26-2 Aug Regimental Camp at Aberfoyle Scotland

Your news and photographs are always welcome for inclusion in Roundup – what better way of getting your news circulated throughout the Regiment – and beyond!

Please email your copy by the last Friday in the month to:

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