

The Girls' Brigade Ireland



Annual Review
2018/2019

FOREWARD

I am delighted to introduce to you to the 2019 Annual Review of The Girls' Brigade Ireland.

As we look back on our last session it is remarkable to think that for over 125 years we have been working with young girls and women to help them develop and achieve their potential through our diverse programme together with making lifelong friends.

Our Annual Review is an important time to reflect back on all our achievements over the last session, as it gives us an opportunity to showcase our fun packed programme by highlighting events which have taken place at National, District and Company levels. One of the highlights of the year was our fantastic Fun Day out in Dublin Zoo on Saturday 13th October 2018 to conclude our 125th Anniversary celebrations.

During 2018/2019 the National Board have embarked on a journey, to lay the foundation for change to ensure we continue to meet the needs of all members associated with this great organisation. It has been a year of discovery, learning and executing plans to significantly revitalise The Girls' Brigade Ireland.



I would like to thank the National Board and acknowledge their valuable work and commitment during the last year. The time and energy that they have given is paramount to ensuring the continued success of the organisation.

We are currently implementing these plans, embracing this responsibility confident we can achieve the goals we have worked together to put in place. As I write this Forward we are developing a new Website together with implementing a software management system which will ultimately improve the effectiveness and efficiency of our Governance and overall operational processes for all members.

Any major change is not without its own challenges, however by working together and ensuring the most beneficial use of our resources we can achieve our goal. Our main aim is to give every member the opportunity to become everything she wants to be from Tiny Tots through to Lieutenants and Captains. Everyone has potential to innovate, learn, lead and make change.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joan Nicoll who is retiring this year for 14 years of dedication and loyalty to The Girls' Brigade Ireland in her position as National Director. We truly thank you and we sincerely hope you have a wonderful healthy and happy retirement! You will be missed, but never forgotten for all you have done for us all. Enjoy your time with your family and friends and may every moment of your life be full of new experiences. We also wish you and the 35th Co. Lucan success for the future as you continue in your position as Captain and look forward to seeing you at future events.

I would also like to thank Sarah Swann for all you have contributed to The Girls' Brigade Ireland over the years and for all your help in your position as Administrative Assistant. Sarah we wish you the very best of luck now and always for all the new ventures that life has in store for you as you embark on a new journey.

One of our Captains is retiring this year and I would like on behalf of The Girls' Brigade Ireland to thank Ann Hegarty of the 39th Co. Bray for all your work and dedication over the last 7 years as both Captain and a member of the National Board and to wish you well for the future.

On behalf of The Girls' Brigade Ireland I would like to congratulate 22nd Co. Kill o' the Grange and their Captain Claire O'Kennedy, on celebrating their 60th year. Well done to you and all your girls and we wish you many more years of success for the future.

Finally I would like to say a huge thank you to all the Captains, Lieutenants and helpers etc. You are all the back bone of this organisation, without you all the organisation would not exist. It is thanks to your dedication and inspiration to realise every girls potential by leading, innovating and teaching them life skills, friendship and comradery through shared experiences that we continue to be a great organisation for young girls.

As we look to the future we will continue to offer opportunities to girls and young women by reaching out to more girls, creating an equal, safe, exciting and happy environment for every girl.

Gillian Lesware
Chairperson

GREETINGS from our Vice Patron

As we say Goodbye to Joan and Sarah I thank them for their commitment to the administration and servicing of our Headquarters, and wish them God's blessing on their plans for the future.

Changes are always met with a certain trepidation so my thoughts and prayers are with those who have the responsibility, at all levels in our organization National, District and company, of endeavouring to secure a fulfilling future for the girls seeking enrichment of life as members of The Girls' Brigade Ireland.



My best wishes to you all.

Joan Darling
Vice Patron

FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

This past Session has been, I feel, one of the quickest Sessions I have ever experienced! It feels no time at all since we met for our AGM in Sutton and yet here we are putting our thoughts and 'hopefully our energy' into another Session which will commence with our AGM on the 14th September this year. Once again I have thoroughly enjoyed all the Displays/Competitions/Enrolments as I really love meeting with the Officers and girls in as many companies as I possibly can and appreciate the work and time entailed in organising such events – as they say 'been there, done that'!! Unfortunately I am unable to accept every invitation as in some cases there is a clash of dates.



As we say farewell to our 125th year I reflect on the fact that anniversaries are interesting things. Some are sad, many are joyful. The one which we have just celebrated has been a very joyful one because we have come a long way since that little group of girls met in Sandymount so long ago. We have grown from that tiny seed into a worldwide organisation. The Girls' Brigade Ireland is all inclusive and we are all held together by the one motto – 'Seek, Serve, Follow'. All we aim to do is covered by these three words.

Often as I look around the room at our AGM and see so many young women who, out of their very busy personal lives, make time to give to Girls' Brigade, I am humbled by their commitment and dedication. I know that they give of their time out of a love for our organisation and the difference they can make to the girls who come through their companies is all the thanks they want.

This past session some companies have had 'birthday' celebrations. The 22nd Company Kill o' the Grange celebrated their 60th year and I congratulate them on that wonderful achievement. There are many other companies around the country that will be celebrating their 'birthdays' soon, such as a 30th a 40th a 70th and a 110 year old and we congratulate them and their leaders and I look forward to celebrating these milestones with them.

Part of my role as President is my involvement in the interviewing and commissioning of new Lieutenants and every year both Hazel Ensor (who interviews alongside me) and I get very excited by the calibre of girl we meet – they are such interesting young women and The Girls' Brigade Ireland are all the richer for having them in our organisation. Seeing the number of girls putting themselves forward to become Lieutenants is, I feel, a testament to the wonderful role that all Captains play in the nurturing of these potential new leaders and a reassurance that The Girls' Brigade Ireland is strong and will continue to flourish in the years ahead. However, at the risk of always repeating myself, we need these Lieutenants to become Captains or indeed take on the role of 'running' a Company with a few likeminded people by their side! Sometimes we are tempted to think that the problems of running a company can be too much but just remember there are greater rewards when we are surrounded by girls who are having the time of their lives amongst their friends they are making for life.

As I wrote in my Report last year the International Award, under the guidance of Hazel Ensor, has been a great success and this Session two girls have just reached sight of the 'finishing post'. We would hope that this prestigious award will continue to capture girls' imagination and that more girls will come 'on board' over the next few years.

I must at this point say a huge thank you to Joan Nicoll, our National Director for the past 14 years and who is retiring this year. Joan will be missed by so many and we wish her good health and happiness as she begins another journey in her life. Joan thankfully will not be cutting all ties with Girls' Brigade as she is Captain of the 35th Company in Lucan.

We would also like to thank our Administrative Assistant Sarah Swann for all she has contributed to Girls' Brigade over the past number of years. We wish Sarah every happiness as she pursues another direction in her life and we wish her well.

Finally I would like to thank all the Captains, Officers and helpers who give of their time and indeed energy to The Girls' Brigade Ireland. We are all members of such a wonderful Organisation which we can be justly proud of and as leaders we are in such a privileged position to be able to teach girls, not only to uphold the Aim, the Principles and the Motto of Girls' Brigade, which are set out for us, but also to teach them the importance of teamwork, (and I don't mean P.E.!) and about having fun. If we can achieve this, in however small a way that might be, then we have indeed achieved a great deal.

Margery McElhinney,
National President.



This photo, of the 36th Company Clonakilty/Rosscarbery, was taken at the Zoo, an outing for all in The Girls' Brigade Ireland to celebrate our 125th year, on what was probably the wettest day of the year but to me it epitomises the essence of Girls' Brigade because no matter what we encounter, be it on a Company night, an outing, in a competition, we always look on the bright side, enjoy ourselves and keep smiling.

National Director's Report 2018 – 2019

Margery has asked me to write a piece about my time in The Girls' Brigade Ireland. I joined 16th Co. St. Luke's when I was 2 and left for four years after I got married and moved out to Leixlip. When the Rev. Ken Lindsay realised that he had several GB Officers living in and around the Lucan area, I agreed to help him start the company. That was only 36 years ago!

I first got involved at National level when I joined the Spiritual Committee as an Officer of the 35th Co. Lucan. Little did I know back then when I went into the office to help Joan Darling put the Scripture courses together for the Captain's Pack I would end up working for GB Ireland for 15 years. 14 years National Secretary/Director. I loved my job and I got great satisfaction in helping others and seeing so many new leaders join the ranks. Isobel brought me along to my first European Fellowship many years ago and I remained a member of the Executive Committee until I retired this May. I worked under three EF Chairs and four International Presidents.

My job brought me all around Ireland meeting fantastic Captains, Officers and Helpers who selflessly gave up their time every week to help girls become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ and to teach them new life skills and how to keep-fit through dance and games. I attended Company Displays, District and National Events here and in the UK but I will never forget the rain in Dublin Zoo last October. But through that rain I got to see dozens of happy faces passing me by and even heard some singing.

As many of you know I love travelling and seeing new places and of course taking photographs, whether in Ireland, the UK or around the world. The GB computer is full of photographs from companies, competitions and from ICGB.

In 2006 I attended my first ICGB Conference in Ulster University Coleraine with Isobel, Emily, Shirley and Linda who was Ireland's Youth Representative to the European Fellowship. It was so cold I stayed in my fleece for the whole 10 days and the leaders from GBNI had to go around charity shops buying coats for the delegates who had arrived from much warmer countries! It was a wonderful week of friendship and learning about GB in countries from around the world. Little did I know Linda's new GBNI friend, Claire Rush, would become an International Vice President before I retired. I met so many remarkable leaders like Claire and many became friends for life and continue to inspire me to this day. I learnt so much about how GB worked in other countries, especially in developing countries where they teach important life skills. It was fascinating to discover how every country had adapted to the immediate needs of their girls and developed different programmes to enable each and every girl reach her true potential. It is so exciting to be part of a worldwide organisation that has the capacity to empower young girls and have such a positive impact on their lives.

In 2010 I travelled to Kuching, Borneo with Margery, Isobel, Averil, Hazel and Sally. We took three flights to get there, but it was worth it. We stopped off in Singapore on the way out for two days and Kuala Lumpur on the way back. I missed dinner one night to take photographs of a stunning sunset over the South China Seas which I had swum in that afternoon. In between all the travelling and photograph taking there was actually a lot of work done!

I was honoured to be asked by Girls' Brigade England and Wales to write a piece for their 'A Great Big Story (120 stories of Girls' Brigade to mark 120 years of mission so far....)' Our Scripture Course was sent to Canada for many years and a Captain in GBNI always took our Explorer Programme. My job gave me the chance to develop my creative skills and I thoroughly enjoyed designing the different courses and programmes over the years.

In 2018 I once again attended ICGB in Livingstone, Zambia where I got to meet up with old friends and make new ones. I felt so privileged to be there when The Girls' Brigade Worldwide celebrated 125 years. They were so thrilled to have someone from the home of GB at the conference and I lost count of the number of photographs taken. Thank you to the National Board for allowing me to attend this special conference. It was a trip of a lifetime as I got to see the Victoria Falls (and of course take millions of photographs!!)

I am so proud to be a member of such an incredible organisation and so thankful that I got the chance to meet, learn from and work with so many inspirational leaders, both here in Ireland and from around the world. Thank you to each and every one of you who supported and encouraged me throughout this wonderful journey.

Joan E. Nicoll



New International President, Mrs Priscilla Penny

It is my greatest privilege to send greetings to GB Ireland

It seems like yesterday that I took over from Vivienne in August 2018 at ICGB in Livingstone. I am still overwhelmed and full of thankfulness for this opportunity to join God's Mission through GB in this position.

I celebrate and salute all that came before me including Margaret Lyttle who was given this vision in Dublin 126 years ago. Thank you ladies for continuing to carry the torch. I pray that God abundantly bless you and your families for your continued dedication to join God in His Mission for Girls. We pride ourselves in being the oldest and biggest organisation focused on Girls and it all started in Dublin.



As we continue to celebrate our continued involvement in this Ministry, it is important to seek God's Guidance so that we continue to be relevant. When we started this new phase of the journey in August 2018, there was a lot of excitement and anticipation to hear what God was saying to us in this Season. For those who heard or have read my opening address at ICGB 2018, I talked about focusing on the Environment and Advocacy for the next four years. Since then, we have been accepted as members of UN Women with Consultative status. This is great news. !! We attended our first UN Women's conference on the Status of Women in New York and it gave us a lot of networking opportunities. GB is sitting at the table!!! Please pray for doors of opportunity to open to further the work of GB.

I pray that as you meet and deliberate, God guides you to come up with programmes that will help the girls and young women in your care to engage with issues of Social justice, Climate change, recycling, and renewable energy, while maintaining our core-value of transforming Lives and bringing the Gospel of Hope, knowing that True Joy comes from God.

#Fruitful and Overflowing...Live Joyfully#.

Take Time to also pray for your IPC as they have their first meeting from 8th to 13th July, 2019.

Peace, Love and Joy.

**Priscilla P. Penny.
International President**

News from GB Europe



Greetings to GB Ireland! It's been a busy year for Girls' Brigade in Europe as work together to seek, serve and follow Christ. Here's some numbers to highlight the work we've been doing throughout 2018/2019:

The GB Europe executive team have met TWO times in the last year. The GB Europe executive, composed of senior volunteers, staff, representatives and 18-30s from each country, meet regularly to strategize, support and work collaboratively in order to see more lives transformed. In November 2018, the GB Europe executive met in Ireland at the Maldron hotel beside Dublin Airport. It was great to be in the birthplace of Girls' Brigade on its 125th birthday. GB Ireland is an important member of the GB Europe executive team. We're grateful for your country's representatives – Margery, Joan and Claire - for their input and passion. In particular I would like to pay tribute to Joan as she reaches retirement. Joan has served faithfully on the executive team for many years and has been a great advocate of GB Ireland and GB International. Joan, you will be very much missed but we wish you God's richest blessing!

THIRTEEN is the number of GB Europe members who are part of our FIZZ 2019 team to Uganda. In July 2019, the FIZZ mission team travelled to Uganda to run children's programmes at two schools as well as leadership training and menstrual health workshops. This mission team is in partnership with Fields of Life. The team met together in Antrim, Northern Ireland in late March to have an equipping weekend.



In September 2018, FORTY church leaders in Macedonia attended an equipping workshop to explore how Girls' Brigade could help to turn up the volume of hope for girls. This event was part of a mission extension trip to Macedonia which included being part of the annual ANA's women conference which had 400 women attended. The three members of the team led 4 equipping workshops on mental health, vision and helping children encounter Jesus, facilitated a gathering of

under 30s women and staffed a Girls' Brigade exhibition stand at the ANA conference. It became evident that girls and women face many challenges in Macedonia and exploring an expression of GB in this country would be beneficial. Watch this space!

£8750 is the amount of money that GB Europe is hoping to raise through our I AM Girl fundraising appeal. Working with UK Charity Fields of Life, Girls' Brigade Europe has created a fundraising appeal to buy 1,250 I AM GIRL menstrual health packs which will transform the lives of 1,250 girls in Sub-Saharan Africa on our 125th birthday year. Unfortunately periods are a taboo subject in these countries and only 1 in 5 girls make it to secondary school. For many, as they don't have access to sanitary pads or safe toilets, just having their period is of the reasons why girls drop out. Completing their full education can transform the opportunities and lives of girls in East Africa. GB Europe members have been fundraising by holding coffee mornings, planning individual events as well as donating at national events. **Current total is £4424 - 632 packs transforming lives of 632 young women and 51% of fundraising goal achieved.** A big thank you to GB Ireland for its very generous donation.

Did you know... GB Europe has 42,800 members?



You and I are members of a family which stretches over 50 different countries; from Barbados to Papua New Guinea, from Ireland to Cape Town. We're part of a family which spans five generations with a legacy of 125 years of mission and ministry. Isn't it incredible to part of Girls' Brigade story?

You are an important member of this family. Stay connected: www.gbworldwide.org and www.facebook.com/GirlsBrigadeWorldwide.

Dr Claire Rush

GB Europe Chair & International Vice-President of Girls' Brigade

The Past Members Association

2018 - 2019



We held our Annual Advent Service in Zion Parish Church on 2 December 2018. Thanks to Past Members of the 12th Co. for providing a lovely tea.

The collection of €410 was sent to GB headquarters to be part of the amount to be sent to the charity 'Barnardos Ireland' for the 2018-2019 session.



Our Annual Lunch was held on 18th May 2019 in the Talbot Hotel Stillorgan.

Although the numbers were very disappointing those present enjoyed the chat and laughter.

How do we go forward in the future? Venue, price and time of year were discussed.

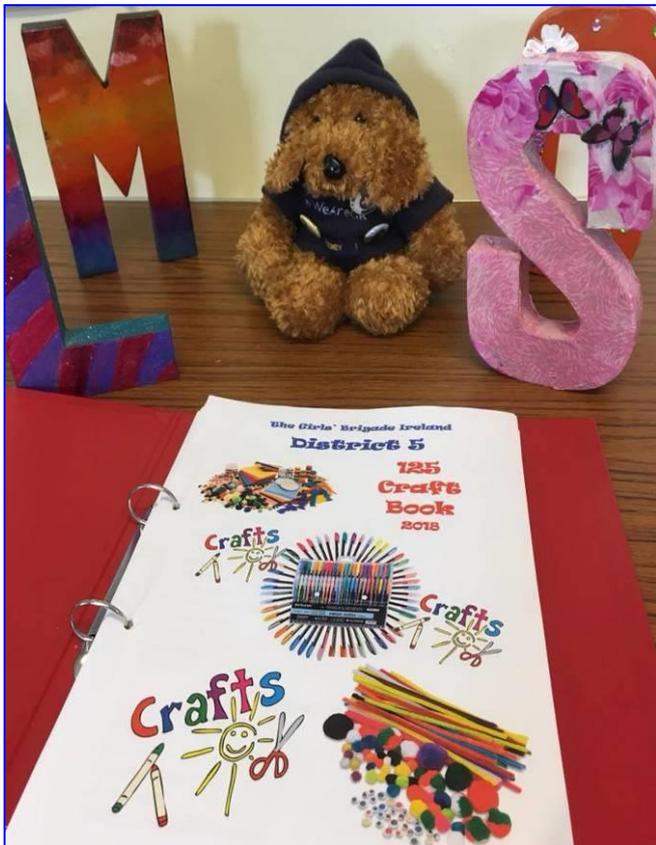
The amount raised from the raffle amounted to €245 which will be sent to Barnardos via headquarters to be included in GBI charity for this session.



Hilda B Bleakley

Hon. Secretary, The Girls' Brigade Past Member's Association

AGM 2018





Congratulations/ Parties And Farewells



On **Saturday**, 30th March, Joan Nicoll was accompanied to the Manorhamilton Display with her sister Lesley Rue, to what she thought was to present the awards on the night. On entering the hall, she was surprised to be met by Retired Captains, Retired Officers and Captains and Officers from District 5. They all travelled to Manorhamilton as a surprise to say farewell and a huge thank you for her friendship, support and encouragement to all in District 5 and Girls Brigade Ireland.

At the end of the display as a surprise to Joan, a few companies who couldn't attend on the night, sent their company messages by video which were played. This led into the finale entitled "Friends are Friends Forever if the Lord is Lord of them". This song is written and sung by Michael W Smith. Manorhamilton GB began singing the song along with actions and unknown to Joan girls from some of the District 5 companies then joined in to complete the song and all the district representatives joined Manorhamilton GB and the District girls to sing the final verse. It certainly was emotional as Joan was presented with gifts and cards from the companies. We pray now for Joan as she retires that she will always be a Friend Forever and will continue to visit us in District 5.

Joan Nicoll:

As everyone reading this report knows we, in The Girls' Brigade Ireland, have been very lucky to have had, for the past 14 years, a wonderful National Director in Joan Nicoll. Joan has been such a good ambassador for our organisation and as she is Captain of a Company herself knew exactly the demands put on every Captain and was there to help in any way she could even if it was just to be the listening ear on the other end of the phone, she would always give of her time to anyone who asked.

During the years as our National Director Joan travelled to different parts of the world representing us at European Fellowship Conferences, a part of Girls' Brigade which I personally know that she loved, meeting with representatives from the other Fellowships and many new friendships were forged during this time. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Joan for everything she has given to The Girls' Brigade Ireland over the past number of years and to wish her good health and happiness in her retirement.



Sarah Swann:

Sarah has been with us in The Girls' Brigade Ireland headquarters for many years looking after all that an organisation such as ours brings with it in terms of paperwork, ordering, uniforms etc and she has done all of that so meticulously, which was her way. Sarah was always glad to see Captains and parents' alike coming into HQ to collect orders so that she could have a little natter – mainly about how her beloved furry friends were behaving. In case there is anyone not aware of what I mean - Sarah is devoted to two cats which play a big part in her life and her heart.

Sarah is now following a new path in terms of her career and we wish her well in her new job. No doubt, as we have two companies in Wicklow, Greystones and the 1st Company Wicklow, we will no doubt be meeting Sarah at 'events' in the near future.



22nd Co. Kill o the Grange 60th Celebrations

Our 60th display was held on Friday April 12th 2019. We were so delighted that our founder member and company President Mrs. Bertha Marsh was able to attend. In fact we had three generations of the family with us, Bertha's daughter, Sandra Chapple, and her grand daughter Tanya Chapple, both of whom were heavily involved in the running of the company. Sandra, like her mum was captain for many years.

Our Enrolment service was in October and we had a full company attendance and enjoyed a celebratory cake afterwards.

We also celebrated our 60th year in the Summerhill Hill Hotel Enniskerry for afternoon tea where some of our past captains and leaders were present along with others who have had a long association with the 22nd Company.

To continue our celebrations we had a full company item on the display with music from "The Showman" which all the girls and leaders participated in.

We look forward to many more years of fun and friendship in Kill Brigade set down originally by the leadership of a very special lady, Mrs. Bertha Marsh.

I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of the leaders and girls to congratulate our captain, Clare O'Kennedy, on the birth of her baby girl Lottie. I am sure we will see Lottie in Tiny-Tots in a couple of years!

Nola Lambert
Acting Captain



MOTTO

Seek, Serve and follow Christ

THE AIM

The aim of The Girls' Brigade, being a Christian organisation, International and Interdenominational, shall be:

*To help girls to become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and through self-control, reverence and a sense of responsibility
to find true enrichment of life.*

INTERNATIONAL VISION

**"GIRLS' LIVES TRANSFORMED,
GOD'S WORLD ENRICHED"**

www.gbworldwide.org

PATRONS

The Archbishop of Armagh, Primate
of all Ireland

The Moderator of the General
Assembly of the Presbyterian Church
in Ireland

The President of the Methodist
Church in Ireland

The Archbishop of Dublin and Bishop
of Glendalough
Primate of Ireland

VICE PATRON

Mrs Joan Darling

TRUSTEES

Very Revd. David Godfrey

Ven. David Pierpoint

NATIONAL PRESIDENT:

Mrs Margery McElhinney

NATIONAL DIRECTOR:

Joan Nicoll

Tel: 01 667 8302

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Mrs Isobel Henderson
Mrs Carol Fox

HEADQUARTERS:

2 Tritonville Avenue
Sandymount
Dublin 4

Website:

Main Office: Tel: 01 668 9191

Email: info@girlsbrigadeirl.ie

National Board 2018 – 2019

Chairperson: Mrs Gillian Lesware **Vice Chairperson:** Mrs Arlene Fitzgerald

Hon. Treasurer: Ms Nadine Watters **Hon. Secretary:** Ms Jacky Anderson

National Commissioner: Ms Jacky Anderson

Board Members:

District 1: Ms Sharon Kinsella, Mrs Gillian Lesware

District 2: Mrs Averil Dobson, Mrs Ann Hegarty

District 3: Revd Lorraine Kennedy Ritchie, Mrs Arlene Fitzgerald, Ms Nadine Watters

District 4: Mrs Clodagh Nicolson, Rev. Kingsley Sutton

District 5: Mrs Shirley Hewston, Mrs Joan Moffitt, Rev. Richard Beadle

District 6: Vacant

National President: Mrs Margery McElhinney

Co-opted: National Chaplain Revd Suzanne Harris

In attendance: National Director Ms Joan Nicoll (Sept. '18 - May '19)

IRELAND'S REPRESENTATIVES TO EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP EXECUTIVE:

Mrs Margery McElhinney, Ms Joan Nicoll

Ms Clare Black, Youth Representative

NATIONAL SUB COMMITTEES 2018 - 2019

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Very Revd David Godfrey, Ms Nadine Watters, Mrs Gillian Lesware, National Director.

SPIRITUAL COMMITTEE: Revd Suzanne Harris, National Chaplain, Ms Naomi Pasley (District 1). Mrs Clare O'Kennedy, Miss Elaine Wolfe (District 2). Mrs Shirley Hewston, Mrs Norma Summers (District 5). National Director.

PROGRAMME & TRAINING COMMITTEE:

Ms Jacky Anderson, National Commissioner, Ms Sharon Kinsella, Mrs Gillian Lesware (District 1). Mrs Averil Dobson,(part) Ms Amy Jolley (District 2). Mrs Alison Jackson, Ms Nadine Watters (District 3). Ms Sorcha Glynmartin, Mrs Hazel Robb (District 5) National Director.

STAFF SUPPORT COMMITTEE: Very Revd David Godfrey, Mrs Gillian Lesware, Mrs Margery McElhinney.

DISTRICT PERSONNEL 2018 - 2019

District 1:	Chairperson Vice Chairperson Hon. Secretary Hon. Treasurer	Miss Marie Hade Mrs Gillian Dean Mrs Gillian Lesware Miss Marie Hade
District 2:	Chairperson Vice Chairperson Hon. Secretary Hon. Treasurer	Miss Jean Knight Mrs Anne Fitzsimmons Mrs Averil Dobson Mrs Sandra Byrne
District 3:	Chairperson Vice Chairperson Hon. Secretary Hon. Treasurer	Ms Jacky Anderson Mrs Caron Neale Mrs Arlene Fitzgerald Ms Jacky Anderson
District 4:	Chairperson Vice Chairperson Hon. Secretary Hon. Treasurer	Mrs Clodagh Nicholson Ms Valda Bennett Mrs Clodagh Nicholson Ms Jane Collins
District 5:	Chairperson Vice Chairperson Hon. Secretary Hon. Treasurer	Mrs Joan Moffitt Mrs Margaret Dudgeon Mrs Shirley Hewston Mrs Louise Diver
District 6:	Hon. Secretary	Mrs Kathleen Rothwell

COMPANIES in IRELAND

DISTRICT 1 LEWIS CROSBY

6th Co. Holy Trinity, Rathmines	Closed
11th Co. Sandymount / Irishtown	Ms Sharon Kinsella
12th Co. St Catherine's / Zion	Mrs Gillian Lesware
35th Co. Lucan Methodist	Ms Joan Nicoll
42nd Co. Castleknock	Mrs Olive Good

DISTRICT 2

1st Co. Wicklow Town	Mrs Lesley Shepherd
7th Co. Dundrum Methodist	Mrs Averil Dobson
17th Co. Christ Church, Dun Laoghaire	Miss Jean Knight
22nd Co. Kill o' the Grange	Mrs Clare O'Kennedy
26th Co. St Maelruain's Tallaght	Mrs Fiona Monahan
28th Co. St. Patrick's Greystones	Mrs Anne Fitzsimmons
39th Co. Bray	Mrs Ann Hegarty

DISTRICT 3 NORTH EASTERN

5th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian	Mrs Alison Jackson
21st Co. Drumcondra	Mrs Arlene Fitzgerald
24th Co. St. John's Coolock	Ms Edel McCormack
29th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide	Ms Nadine Watters
45th Co. Swords / Donabate	Mrs Caron Neale

DISTRICT 4 MUNSTER

36th Co. Clonakilty/Rosscarbery	Mrs Clodagh Nicholson
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DISTRICT 5 GLENVEIGH

10th Co. Sligo Methodist	Mrs Joan Moffitt
19th Co. Kerrykeel	Mrs Gladys Carr
23rd Co. Donagh Parish Glaslough	Mrs Margaret Dudgeon
30th Co. Kilmacrennan	Mrs Louise Diver
31st Co. Trinity Presbyterian	Mrs Jennifer Rankin
32nd Co. Clontibret Presbyterian	Mrs Jennifer Boyd
38th Co. Monaghan Town	Mrs Norma Martin
40th Co. Manorhamilton	Mrs Shirley Hewston
44th Co. Ramelton	Mrs Angela McKeever

DISTRICT 6 SOUTH EAST

18th Co. St Mary's Bunclody	Mrs Kathleen Rothwell
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RESERVE CAPTAINS

2018 - 2019

- District 1:** Miss Hilda Bleakley, Mrs Edna Cashell, Mrs Sally Darlington Mrs Gillian Dean, Mrs Ros Garrett, Miss Marie Hade, Mrs Isobel Henderson, Ms Hilary Nason, Mrs Elizabeth Moore, Mrs Lesley Rue.
- District 2:** Mrs Sandra Byrne, Mrs Sandra Chapple, Mrs Hazel Ensor, Mrs Flo Fennell, Mrs Carol Fox, Mrs Ann Hegarty (July 2019), Mrs Jasmin Hourie, Mrs Nola Lambert, Ms Hazel Lowry, Mrs Bertha Marsh, Mrs Valerie Wormell.
- District 3:** Ms Jacky Anderson, Mrs Phyllis Bornemann, Mrs Janet Brown-McKeen, Mrs Anne Corry, Mrs Joan Darling, Mrs Margery McElhinney, Miss Daphne McGowan, Mrs. Olive Stewart.
- District 5:** Mrs Geraldine Alexander, Ms Emily Borland, Mrs Vanessa Borland, Ms. Caroline Baird
- District 6:** Mrs Irene Brownrigg, Mrs Dorothy Stedmond.

RESERVE CHAPLAIN

2018 - 2019

- District 1:** Archdeacon David Pierpoint.

Congratulations

Commissioned Officers 2019

Aimee Spencer	1 st Co. Wicklow
Natasha Hogan	5 th Co. Clontarf
Jennifer Kelly	11 th Co. Sandymount
Hannah Salmon	39 th Co. Bray
Orla Kitching	42 nd Co. Castleknock
Eimear Lyons	42 nd Co. Castleknock
Linda Malone	42 nd Co. Castleknock



BRIGADER BROOCH

Congratulations to the following girls who gained their Brigader Brooch:

Laura Creevey	5 th Co. Clontarf
Hollie Erskine	5 th Co. Clontarf
Libby Behan	11 th Co. Sandymount
Sarah Cairney	11 th Co. Sandymount
Jennifer Nurns	19 th Co. Kerrykeel
Emma McNutt	19 th Co. Kerrykeel
Rebekah Williamson	23 rd Co. Glaslough
Jennifer Taylor	23 rd Co. Glaslough
Rebecca Lyster	23 rd Co. Glaslough
Victoria Irwin	23 rd Co. Glaslough
Amy Berry	23 rd Co. Glaslough
Jessica Hill	23 rd Co. Glaslough
Jane Hill	32 nd Co. Clontibret
Rachel McChesney	32 nd Co. Clontibret
Stephanie Deegan	35 th Co. Lucan
Amy Clements	35 th Co. Lucan
Jillian Boardwell	40 th Co. Manorhamilton
Orlaith Taafe	42 nd Co. Castleknock

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

as at 31st May 2019

Chaplains (2019) 31				
Chaplains (2017) 31	Captains (2019) 27			
Chaplains (2016) 31	Captains (2017) 28	Lieutenants (2019) 110		
Chaplains (2015) 30	Captains (2016) 28	Lieutenants (2017) 112	Full Time Helpers (2019) 56	
Chaplains (2014) 30	Captains (2015) 28	Lieutenants (2016) 112	Full Time Helpers (2017) 55	Associates (2019) 38
	Captains (2014) 29	Lieutenants (2015) 106	Full Time leaders/Helpers (2016) 61	Associates (2017) 43
		Lieutenants (2014) 106	Leaders/Helpers (2015) 68	Associates (2016) 44
			Leaders/Helpers (2014) 60	Associates (2015) 57
				Associates (2014) 53
8 New Lieutenants commissioned during 2019				

Brigaders (2019) 131				
Brigaders (2017) 123	Seniors (2019) 107			
Brigaders (2016) 122	Seniors (2017) 98	Juniors (2019) 304		
Brigaders (2015) 113	Seniors (2016) 116	Juniors (2016) 322	Explorers (2019) 523	
Brigaders (2014) 137	Seniors (2015) 139	Juniors (2016) 302	Explorers (2017) 521	Tiny Tots (2019) 175
	Seniors (2014) 134	Juniors (2015) 318	Explorers (2016) 547	Tiny Tots (2017) 191
		Juniors (2014) 355	Explorers (2015) 535	Under 5's (2016) 198
			Explorers (2014) 516	Under 5's (2015) 219
				Under 5's (2014) 223

Total Members 1,471

34 Reserve Captains

Auxiliaries (Pianists, Bible Class Teachers & Others) **56**

FEIS COMPETITION RESULTS 23 & 24 *November 2018*

6 years and under

1 st Place: Cara Moore	17 th Co. Dun Laoghaire
2 nd Place: Lydia Massey	28 th Co. Greystones
3 rd Place: Amelia Vincent	45 th Co. Swords/Donabate
4 th Place: Samantha Engels Jessica Bogdan	22 nd Co. Kill o' the Grange 39 th Co. Bray
HC: Sophie O'Toole	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
HC: Abbie Spalding	1 st Co. Wicklow
HC: Siofra Keegan Cullinan	1 st Co. Wicklow
HC: Eleanor Keogh	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown

7 and 8 years

1 st Place: Addie Cole	39 th Co. Bray
2 nd Place: Charlotte Shields	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
3 rd Place: Ava Cavanagh	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
4 th Place: Lucy O'Carroll Tifera Ngwenga	39 th Co. Bray 17 th Co. Dun Laoghaire
HC: Anna McHugh	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
HC: Dasha Evans	28 th Co. Greystones
HC: Alex Woosley	45 th Co. Swords/Donabate
HC: Ellen Codd	1 st Co. Wicklow
HC: Katie O'Toole	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
HC: Llara Gross	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown

Juniors 9 - 11 years

1 st Place: Irish Rosaldo	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
2 nd Place: Kate McClafferty	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
3 rd Place: Lianna Bell	1 st Co. Wicklow
4 th Place: Lucy O'Toole Anna McManus	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian 42 nd Co. Castleknock

Seniors 12 - 13 years

1 st Place: Freya Keegan Cullinan	1 st Co. Wicklow
2 nd Place: Grace Keogh	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
3 rd Place: Joanna Langlely Ruth Ferns Kelly	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian 28 th Co. Greystones

Brigaders & Associates

1 st Place: Alanna Patton	1 st Co. Wicklow
2 nd Place: Sophie Quinn	1 st Co. Wicklow
3 rd Place: Alexandra Spencer Libby Behan	1 st Co. Wicklow 11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
4 th Place: Jennifer Salmon	39 th Co. Bray

CHORAL SPEAKING COMPETITIONS

EXPLORER CHORAL SPEAKING ***Saturday 9th December 2018***

- 1st Place: 11th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
- 2nd Place: 12th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion A
- 3rd Place: 17th Co. Christ Church Dun Laoghaire
45th Co. Swords/Donabate
- 4th Place: 12th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion B

JUNIOR / SENIOR CHORAL SPEAKING ***Saturday 9th December 2018***

- 1st Place: 12th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion A
- 2nd Place: 12th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion B
- 3rd Place: 11th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
5th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian

MUSICAL THEATRE COMPETITION **March 2019**

Overall Winner: 29th Co. Malahide 'Les Miserables'

Choreography: 22nd Co. Kill o' the Grange 'Oliver'

Ensemble Singing: 1st Co. Wicklow 'Wizard of Oz'

National Arts & Crafts Competition Results 2019

Arts & Crafts Trophy (5 – 6 year old)

Explorers: *Decorate Small Stones*

1 st Place: Siofra Keegan Cullinan	1 st Co.. Wicklow
2 nd Place: Amy Fox	40 th Co. Manorhamilton
3 rd Place: Eva Mulligan	7 th Co. Dundrum
4 th Place: Cara Moore	17 th Co. Dun Laoghaire
Poppy Dawson	45 th Co. Swords/Donabate

Highly Commended:

Abbie Spalding	1 st Co. Wicklow
Ruby Wolfe	45 th Co. Swords/Donabate

Arts & Crafts Shield (7– 8 year old)

Explorers: *Decorate Small Stones*

1 st Place: Megan Cooney	45 th Co. Swords / Donabate
2 nd Place: Faye Bond	1 st Co. Wicklow
3 rd Place: Lilly Janowski	39 th Co. Bray
4 th Place: Lucy Roche	39 th Co. Bray
Sarah O'Connor	1 st Co. Wicklow

Highly Commended:

Chloe Feehily	40 th Co. Manorhamilton
Sophie Gorney	44 th Co. Ramelton

The Ethel Carroll Memorial Trophy

Juniors: *Papier Mache Bowl*

1 st Place: Lucy Clarke	1 st Co. Wicklow
2 nd Place: Grace Sweeney	1 st Co. Wicklow
3 rd Place: Rachel Singleton	23 rd Co. Glaslough
Lila Courtney	42 nd Co. Castleknock
4 th Place: Anna Henderson	17 th co. Dun Laoghaire

The Senior Craft Shield

Seniors: *Quilling*

1 st Place: Aoibh Maguire	7 th Co. Dundrum
2 nd Place: Freya Keegan Cullinan	1 st Co. Wicklow
3 rd Place: Hannah O'Connor	1 st Co. Wicklow
4 th Place: Kirstin Stewart	44 th Co. Ramelton
Zara Gillanders	23 rd Co. Glaslough

Highly Commended:

Zoe Hill	42 nd Co. Castleknock
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Brigaders: Book Folding

1 st Place: Alexandra Spencer	1 st Co. Wicklow
2 nd Place: Rachel Denner	42 nd Co. Castleknock
3 rd Place: Ruth Beadle	40 th Co. Manorhamilton
4 th Place: Emma Denner	42 nd Co. Castleknock

Highly Commended:

Jane Hill	32 nd Co. Clontibret
Rachel McChesney	32 nd Co. Clontibret

NATIONAL P.E. FINAL RESULTS

Congratulations to all the girls who took part in our PT Competitions

EXPLORER SKIPPING SOLO (*Barbara Carson Memorial Trophy*)

1 st Place:	Juliette Mangan	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide
2 nd Place:	Ava Cavanagh	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
3 rd Place:	Katie O'Toole	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
4 th Place:	Kim McMullen	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
4 th Place:	Amy O'Reilly	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide

JUNIOR/SENIOR SKIPPING SOLO (*Dudley Clarke Cup*)

1 st Place:	Gina Murray	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide
2 nd Place:	Clodagh Franke	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
3 rd Place:	Claire O'Callaghan	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide
4 th Place:	Lucy O'Toole	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
4 th Place:	Ellen O'Callaghan	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide

EXPLORER TEAMS (*The Hobson Cup*)

1 st Place:	12 th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion
2 nd Place:	17 th Co. Christ Church D.Laoghaire
3 rd Place:	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown A
4 th Place:	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide

JUNIOR/SENIOR TEAMS (*Bertram Cup*)

1 st Place:	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
2 nd Place:	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide
3 rd Place:	12 th Co. St Catherine's / Zion
4 th Place:	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian

BRIGADER SOLO (*Dublin Division Cup*)

1 st Place:	Sally Dalton	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
2 nd Place:	Lucy Deacon	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
3 rd Place:	Anna McKim	12 th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion
4 th Place:	Laura Creevey	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
4 th Place:	Abby Phelan	26 th Co. St.Maelruain's Tallaght

BRIGADER TEAMS (*Ivy Hall Cup*)

1 st Place:	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
2 nd Place:	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide
3 rd Place:	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
4 th Place:	7 th Co. Dundrum

ASSOCIATE TEAMS (*Past Members Cup*)

1 st Place:	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
2 nd Place:	1 st Co. Wicklow
2 nd Place:	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian

ASSOCIATE SOLO (*Dublin Division Cup*)

1 st Place:	Nicola Durrant	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
2 nd Place:	Kim Shepherd	1 st Co. Wicklow
3 rd Place:	Lucy O'Byrne	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian
4 th Place:	Alana Hourie	26 th Co. St.Maelruain's Tallaght

The Sibbald Cup - Brigader/Associate Drilldown

Runner Up Medal presented in 2014

Winner: Lucy Deacon, 11th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
Runner up: Orla Clarke, 11th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown

The Ada Davis Memorial Cup – Junior/Senior Drilldown

Runner Up Medal presented in 2015

Winner: Olivia Monahan 26th Co. St. Maelruain's Tallaght
Runners up: Grace Keogh, 11th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
Hannah O'Connor, 1st Co. Wicklow

WINNERS of THE MILLIE PEMBERTON PLATE

(Junior and Senior team marks & Brigader Team marks)

1 st Place:	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide
2 nd Place:	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
2 nd Place:	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
3 rd Place:	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian

WINNERS of NORAH WATTERS TROPHY

(Junior and Senior team marks & Explorer Team marks)

1 st Place:	11 th Co. Sandymount/Irishtown
2 nd Place:	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
3 rd Place:	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide
4 th Place:	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian

***Congratulations to all the girls who took part in our
Modern Dance Competitions***

Junior/Senior Modern Dance

1 st Place:	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide A
2 nd Place:	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
3 rd Place:	29 th Co. St. Andrew's Malahide B
4 th Place:	7 th Co. Dundrum

Brigader Modern Dance

1 st Place:	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyterian A
2 nd Place:	7 th Co. Dundrum
3 rd Place:	5 th Co. Clontarf Presbyteri

Around The Districts

Co. Donegal
 Kerrykeel
 Kilmacrennan
 Letterkenny
 Ramelton

Co. Leitrim
 Manorhamilton

Co. Sligo
 Sligo

Co. Monaghan
 Clontibret
 Glaslough
 Monaghan

Co. Wicklow
 Bray
 Greystones
 Wicklow Town

Co. Wexford
 Bunclody

Co. Dublin
 Castleknock
 Dun Laoghaire
 Deansgrange
 Lucan
 Malahide
 Swords

Co. Cork
 Clonakilty

Dublin
 Coolock
 Clontarf
 Drumcondra
 Dundrum
 Rathmines
 Sandymount
 Rathgar
 Tallaght

THE GIRLS' BRIGADE
 125
Shaping the Future
Remembering the Past
Celebrating the Present

DISTRICT 1 – LEWIS CROSBY

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2018 – 2019 SESSION

I have pleasure in presenting the Thirty Seventh Annual Report of the Lewis Crosby District.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday 15th May in Rathmines Parish Centre at 8.00 p.m.

District 1 Board for the Session 2018/ 2019 were elected as follows: -

Chairman	Mrs. I. Henderson
Vice Chairman	Mrs. G. Dean
Hon. Secretary	Mrs. G. Lesware
Hon. Treasurer	Miss M. Hade
National Board Representatives	Mrs. G. Lesware
	Ms S. Kinsella
Trainings & Programmes Committee	Mrs. G. Lesware
	Ms. Sharon Kinsella
Spiritual Committee	Miss N. Pasley

Mrs Violet Dobson

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Mrs Violet Dobson. Violet was a dedicated and loyal Reserve Captain in District 1 who was well known throughout brigade circles and will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

The companies in District 1 have had great successes this year in all competitions and congratulations go to all girls who participated at national level.

District Competition Achievements:

Our District Competitions took place on Saturday 11th March 2019 in The High School. The competitions were very well attended and our thanks to all those who helped and adjudicated.

Explorer Skipping Solo	1 st Place	Kirsten Delaney	12 th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion
	2 nd Place	Lily McDonagh	12 th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion
	3 rd Place	Laura Sherry	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
	4 th Place	Phoebe Burbridge	12 th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion
Explorer Team Work	1 st Place	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown	
	2 nd Place	42 nd Co. Castleknock	
Junior Skipping Solo	1 st Place	Emilia Bennis	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
	2 nd Place	Sadbh Power	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
	3 rd Place	Rachel Hanan	12 th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion
	4 th Place	Katie Cavanagh	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
		Grace Dalton	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
Senior Skipping Solo	1 st Place	Jordan Ozatlar	42 nd Co. Castleknock
	2 nd Place	Katie McCormick	42 nd Co. Castleknock
	3 rd Place	Ally White	42 nd Co. Castleknock
		Zoe Hill	42 nd Co. Castleknock

Jun / Sen Team Work	1 st Place	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown
Explorer Modern Dance	1 st Place	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion 'A' Team
	2 nd Place	42 nd Castleknock
	3 rd Place	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown 'A' Team
	4 th Place	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown 'B' Team 12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion 'B' Team
Junior/Senior Modern Dance	1 st Place	11 th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown 'A' Team
	2 nd Place	12 th Co. St. Catherine's / Zion
	3 rd Place	42 nd Co. Castleknock 'B' Team
	4 th Place	42 nd Co. Castleknock 'A' Team

News around the District

11th Co. Sandymount-Irishtown

Started our year with a Pizza night (and while eating!!) watched our Display.

The Company went Ice Skating in December 2018 with a dinner and secret Santa for the Brigaders.

A Table Quiz in aid of Barnardos was held in January 2019 which was a great success raising nearly €2,000.

Congratulations to Jennifer Kelly on gaining her Officers Commission.

12th Co. St. Catherine's/Zion

We started the year with a meal out for the Lieutenants in the Dropping Well which was enjoyed by all.

In October the company had a fun day at the Zoo with the Explorers, Junior/Seniors and Lieutenants to celebrate 125 years of The Girls' Brigade. While it was raining, all the girls really enjoyed the day.

The Tiny Tots, Explorers and Junior/Seniors had a fun afternoon on Saturday the 15th December.

We had a Christmas Bake Off and Santa came to see all the girls which was very exciting.

The year finished on a high with all the girls participating in a great Display with all their parents, grandparents and friends attending.

35th Co. Lucan

For our Christmas Parties we held a Craft and Pizza night for the Wednesday gang and Santa arrived with presents for the Tiny Tots and Explorers.

We held a 'Go Green for Barnardos' events where all the girls and leaders dressed in green and raised €300.00 for Barnardos Ireland. On the Wednesday night the leaders had organised a surprised Drumming Workshop with Drum Nature. The workshop was a great success and many of the girls got up and danced to the beat. The Tiny Tots & Explorers also went green on Saturday 16 March for Barnardos.

Our Display was held on Saturday 4 May. The Wednesday Gang met two weeks after the Display for an end of year party.

In June our Tiny Tots and Explorers will spend a morning at Explorium, Ireland's National Sport & Science Centre and the Wednesday Gang will go again to Tayto Park for a full day of fun.

42nd Co. Castleknock

We were delighted to welcome back our girls in September along with a lot of new members.

In October we all joined the girls and leaders from other companies for the trip to the Zoo which the girls all thoroughly enjoyed.

In November we held our Enrolment Service and were delighted to have our National Chaplain Rev Suzanne Harris preach at the service.

In December the older girls enjoyed a baking evening making rocky road and chocolate snowmen as well as a trip ice-skating, whilst the younger girls enjoyed a trip to Ship Shape Play Centre.

After Christmas we focused on crafts and PE as well as working towards our Musical Theatre item.

After all the competitions the older girls enjoyed another baking evening making delicious pancakes.

We were delighted to have Jacky Anderson (National Commissioner) at our display to present Officer Certificates to Linda Malone, Eimear Lyons and Orla Kitching. Another successful year which was enjoyed by girls and leaders alike.

Joan Nicoll

We would like to thank Joan Nicoll who is retiring this year from her position as National Director. We wish you a wonderful healthy and happy retirement! We will miss you Joan for all your help and assistance to our companies over the years. We also wish you and the 35th Co. Lucan success for the future as you continues in your position as Captain and look forward to seeing you at future events.

Sarah Swann

We would also like to thank Sarah Swann for all her help over the years in her position as Administrative Assistant. We would like to wish you the very best of luck for your future endeavours.

Rathmines Parish Centre

On behalf of the District I would like to thank Holy Trinity Rathmines for the use of the Parish Centre for all our meetings during the session.

Finally I would like to congratulate you all on a great years work and hope you have a lovely relaxing summer and look forward to seeing you all again in September as we begin another new session.

Gillian Lesware

Secretary - District 1 (Lewis Crosby)

DISTRICT 2

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2018 – 2019 SESSION

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 17th May 2018 in Kill o the Grange at 7.45pm. At our District board meeting following the A.G.M the office bearers for the session were elected. Averil Dobson and Ann Hegarty were elected as our representatives to the National Board. After a lovely summer break and hopefully a restful one, it seemed to fly past before we were straight back into P.E demonstrations and opening up our Companies for the new session. Many thanks goes to all those that set work for our District competitions. We had a very successful year in many of the National Competitions and the results, as listed under National Competition Results, reflect the hard work achieved by the District.

Congratulations go to Aimee Spencer of the 1st Co. Wicklow and Hannah Salmon of the 39th Co. Bray on gaining their Officers awards. Well done girls.

Our **District Competitions** were held on Saturday 9th of February and Sunday 24th of March in Perrystown Community Centre. There were once again large entries with all companies taking part. The atmosphere was great at the competitions and they were well attended especially on the Sunday. Many thanks go to Perrystown for the use of their hall, and to all of the Companies for setting and tidying up the venue and to Sandra Byrne who looked after the door. The following are the results:

Explorer Teamwork

1 st Place	17 th Co Dun Laoghaire
2 nd Place	39 th Co. Bray
3 rd Place	7 th Co. Dundrum A
4 th Place	26 th Co. Tallaght

Explorer Modern Dance

1 st Place	1 st Co. Wicklow
2 nd Place	17 th Co. Dun Laoghaire A
3 rd Place	22 nd Co. Kill o the Grange A
4 th Place	7 th Co. Dundrum A

Explorer Skipping Solo

1 st Place	Ellen Codd	1 st Co. Wicklow
2 nd Place	Sarah O'Connor	1 st Co. Wicklow
3 rd Place	Cara Moore	17 th Co. Dun Laoghaire
3 rd Place	Mary Tracey	17 th Co. Dun Laoghaire
4 th Place	Emma Griffin	1 st Co. Wicklow

Junior/Senior Teamwork

1 st Place	26 th Co. Tallaght
2 nd Place	22 nd Co. Kill o the Grange
3 rd Place	17 th Co. Dun Laoghaire
4 th Place	39 th Co. Bray

Junior Modern Dance

1 st Place	39 th Co. Bray
2 nd Place	1 st Co. Wicklow A
3 rd Place	26 th Co. Tallaght
4 th Place	22 nd Co. Kill o the Grange A

Junior Skipping Solo

1 st Place	Alice Potterton	26 th Co. Tallaght
2 nd Place	Lianna Bell	1 st Co Wicklow
3 rd Place	Ava O'Connor	1 st Co. Wicklow
4 th Place	Emily O'Brien	17 th Co. Dun Laoghaire

Senior Skipping Solo

1 st Place	Megan Wiseman	26 th Co. Tallaght
2 nd Place	Ava Codd	1 st Co. Wicklow
3 rd Place	Saidhbh Poullain	7 th Co. Dundrum
4 th Place	Ruth Ferns-Kelly	28 th Co. Greystones

Junior/Senior and Brigader Drill Down

1 st Place	Megan Wiseman	26 th Co Tallaght
2 nd Place	Louise Flood	1 st Co. Wicklow

Brigader Solo

1 st Place	Lauren Codd	1 st Co. Wicklow
2 nd Place	Heather Collins	7 th Co. Dundrum
3 rd Place	Alanna Patton	1 st Co. Wicklow
4 th Place	Ciara McCarthy	7 th Co. Dundrum

Many thanks go to all the adjudicators and Chairperson who did a great job on the day of our District competitions.

It was decided back last summer that all of the Company's in the District would hold another non-uniform day and the money raised would go to Barnardos. €1768 was raised to date. Many thanks go to all of the Company's that took part.

To celebrate The Girl's Brigade Ireland's 125 years, the National Board decided that every girl in each company might like a trip to Dublin Zoo. This was organised for Saturday 13th October. The event was very well supported by both Dublin and Country Companies. Despite the wettest day of the year, the girls really enjoyed their day out. Hopefully more of these events could be organised in the near future.

On Wednesday 28th November 2018 a social evening was held for all the District 2 Brigaders. The girls had a great night moving from table to table making a different Christmas decoration at each station. Many thanks go to Rose Crampton for supplying all the equipment and teaching the girls a new skill. The night was finished off with a lovely supper supplied by the Companies in attendance and thanks also to the 39th Co. Bray for hosting the evening.

The District would like to pass on their condolences to all members that have suffered a family bereavement in the past year.

In District 2 this year, the 22nd Co. Kill o the Grange celebrated 60 years. Most of the past Captains were in attendance at the display which was a lovely evening. Many congratulations to all the girls and Leaders. Back in November Averil Dobson informed the National Board and the District 2 Board that due to personal reasons she would have to step down from her position on the National Board and the Programme and Training Committee. Her decision was accepted and replacements were needed to take her positions. Unfortunately no other District Captain could take the position on the National Board but Amy Jolley was elected onto the Programme and Training Committee.

After Christmas, Captain Ann Hegarty of 39th Co. Bray announced that she would be retiring at the end of this session after 7 years as Captain. Ann has been a great Captain and an important member on the National Board. Ann will be missed by all of District 2 and we wish her well in her retirement. As yet, Ann's position as Captain of Bray Company is still to be filled.

This year, the Musical Theatre competition returned as requested by the companies at the National A.G.M. It was a fabulous event and a very enjoyable night with 8 companies taking part.

Captain Clare O'Kennedy informed the District Board that she is expecting her first child in July. Everyone is delighted for Clare and wish her and Stuart all the very best.

In the past few years some companies have found that their membership numbers have fallen and this is a very worrying situation. Every effort is being made to change this situation with the hope that companies will remain open. It is important that we all promote Girls Brigade so that we get ourselves recognised as an exciting organisation to be a member of.

Now that we have come to the end of this session, our thanks go to all the District Board members for their continuing hard work and to all Officers and helpers for their support, which the companies could not manage without. Our thanks also go to Joan and Sarah in the office for all they do in helping every Company throughout the whole year. At the end of May both Joan and Sarah are retiring from their positions. They will be very missed as we have all got to know them well from working with them over many years. All of District 2 would like to wish Joan and Sarah all the best in their future adventures. I hope you will all have a restful and hopefully, a sunny summer and I look forward to seeing you back in the new session to do it all over again.

Averil Dobson
Secretary's Report District 2.

DISTRICT 3 - NORTH EASTERN

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2018 – 2019 SESSION

The 2018/2019 session started with the Annual General Meeting being held in the Marine Hotel Sutton, with an array of workshops being held in Sutton Methodist Church.

The companies in District 3 have had great successes this year in all competitions and congratulations go to all girls who participated at national level.

Our **District Competitions** were held on Saturday 9th March 2019 in St Brigid's Boys National School, Killester. It was a super day and very well attended, the girls all performed beautifully and we thank our adjudicator Mrs Margery McElhinney ably assisted by Ms Laura McDunphy. We would like to thank Alice Jack and Niamh Smithers, Brigaders from the 21st Company for doing a terrific job at the door.

The results are as follows:

EXPLORER TEAMWORK

1 st Place	Coolock 24 th
2 nd Place	Drumcondra 21 st
3 rd Place	Malahide 29 th

EXPLORER SOLO SKIPPING

1 st Place	Sophie O'Toole 5 th
2 nd Place	Abby Rose 24 th
3 rd Place	Megan Cooney 45 th
4 th Place	Aliyah Barror-Kelly 5 th

EXPLORER MODERN DANCE

1 st Place	Malahide 29 th
2 nd Place	Clontarf Presbyterian 5 th
3 rd Place	Coolock 24 th
4 th Place	Drumcondra 21 st

JUNIOR/SENIOR MODERN DANCE

1 st Place	Clontarf Presbyterian 5 th
2 nd Place	Clontarf Presbyterian 5 th
3 rd Place	Coolock 24 th
4 th Place	Drumcondra 21 st

JUNIOR/SENIOR TEAMWORK

1 st Place	Coolock 24 th
2 nd Place	Clontarf Presbyterian 5 th
3 rd Place	Drumcondra 21 st

JUNIOR/SENIOR SOLO SKIPPING

1 st Place	Gemma Sargent 5 th
2 nd Place	Ella Crawte 5 th
3 rd Place	Sofia Murray 29 th
3 rd Place	Eabha Rose 24 th
4 th Place	Amelia Barror-Kelly 5 th

Many thanks to the girls in the District who wrote such lovely sets for the competitions, we are very lucky to have such talented and dedicated Lieutenants in District 3.

Well done to all the girls who entered competitions at both National and District level, we at District 3 are proud of each and every girl in our companies.

Arlene Fitzgerald,
Secretary – District 3

District 4 - Munster

36th Co. Clonakilty/Rosscarbery

Another busy year completed in Clonakilty Girls & Boys Brigade with all members taking part in a big variety of activities, discovering new things, making new friends & finding lots of enjoyment in our Friday evenings together.

Many thanks to all our leaders & parents who came to help & provide the children with lots of fun including different Arts and Crafts, Cookery, Decorating, Games, Drama, Songs, Bible Stories, Pumpkin Carving, Pancake Night, Board Games, Parachute Games, Badminton, Skipping, Bench ball, etc.

We also had a many great outings this year. Starting with Saturday 13th Oct'18 when a bus load of very



excited children left Clonakilty in the very early hours & travelled in appalling weather conditions to reach Dublin Zoo, to join many other companies to celebrate Brigades 125 yr National Event. Despite the persistent rain for the entire day, our spirits were never dampened, and the children are still relating stories from this memorable event, which proved to be even better when we won the Photo Challenge Competition from the day!!



Other outings included a Christmas ride on Clonakilty's very own 'Polar Express' with lots of Elves, Mrs. Claus & even Santa making an appearance as it raced around the streets of Clonakilty to view the Christmas lights,

decorations & other festive views. Also an outing to our local Clonakilty Park Cinema & finally our end of year outing Rumley's Open Farm near Cork City.

Once again this year, our Chaplain Rev. Kingsley Sutton joined us with his guitar to accompany the children singing in the hall, at our enrolment service and in the church at the Christmas Carol service. Many thanks to Kingsley for all his time, energy & help that he gives to Brigades.

Our company numbers were down this year, with many Junior & Senior girls trying out other activities that clash with us on Fri evenings. We had 34 children this year: 17 Explorers, 8 Junior Girls, 1 Senior Girl, 2 Brigader Girls and 6 Anchor Boys.



Finally, we ended the Brigade Season with a full hall for our annual Awards Ceremony night, followed by a Beetle Drive & refreshments for all.

Many thanks to all the leaders and parents who helped out and who gave so much time and energy to the different sections of Brigade this year, as well as our two Brigader Girls who were amazing helpers with all the younger children.

Clodagh Nicholson (Captain 36th Co. Clonakilty/Rosscarbery)

District 5 – Glenveigh

10th Co. Sligo Methodist:

Last session the girls in all sections of the company took part in workshops in Origami, First Aid, Art & Craft, Cookery and Baking. We were delighted to be able to fundraise the sum of €300 for Barnados.

In October we had our Fancy Dress Party and in December the girls and some parents sang carols for the residents of St John's Hospital.

Our Explorers and Tiny Tots enjoyed a Pizza Party and a visit to the cinema to see Mary Poppins Returns. Our Juniors and Seniors enjoyed an outing to Bundoran where they went bowling and had a posh lunch at a restaurant.



Joan Moffitt - Captain

19th Co. Kerrykeel:

Our year began as usual supporting Team Hope through the shoebox appeal followed with our senior citizens Christmas tea in December

A group of very excited girls and leaders headed off in October to Dublin to meet up with all other companies at the Zoo however the weather put a damper on the day but not on the spirits and of course was a good excuse to shop.

Activities through the year varied we chose women from the Bible and from history, women from different countries and backgrounds as our scripture badgework.

For our PE we did dancing from years gone by 1920's, 1940's, 1960's, 1980's and the Naughtie's.

Explorers activities included Bible stories, dancing, singing, drawing, painting flowerpots, growing sunflower great fun, first with paint and then with clay the year concluded with a visit from the pet farm to the hall in July.

As with every year we see many changes and this one was no different at the end of March some of us went to Manorhamilton to join with district 5 in saying good bye to our dear friend and national director Joan Nicoll, thank you Joan for all your support and kindness and the many visits all the way to Kerrykeel we pray that the God who never changes will bless you in the next phase of your service and will bless our new national director, our national board and our company as we seek, serve and follow Christ.

Gladys Carr - Captain

23rd Co. Glaslough:

The registration evening of the 2018 – 2019 session saw the return of our girls including some new members. The girls enjoyed a varied range of activities including Zumba dancing, patchwork, quilling, book folding, and cupcake decorating. They sampled some locally produced honey after learning how the bees work so industriously to produce it and meeting the bee keeper.

A trip to the zoo with girls from Monaghan and Clontibret and the opportunity to meet other GB girls on a particularly wet day was really enjoyable.

Several visits from GB officers Naomi and Valerie gave us much encouragement as leaders and filled the girls with new enthusiasm for skipping. Thank you both for your help.

A 'stay awake' in the hall raised funds for Barnardos.

The session closed with our Display evening which was well supported by family and friends. Six of our Brigaders received their Brigader Brooch. We wish them well as they move away to continue their studies.

Finally, many thanks, to all our leaders for your loyalty and hard work throughout the year. Your support has been invaluable in providing a consistent leadership team for the company. Thank you to our Chaplain Rev. Lorraine Capper for your help throughout the session and to all the parents who helped out on a rota basis each week.

Margaret Dudgeon - Captain

30th Co. Kilmacrennan:

The registration night was held on Friday 7th September 2018, when we welcomed many new members together with those returning from last year. Our 2018-2019 session then commenced on Friday 14th September with a varied programme of activities including crafts, baking, and games.

On Saturday 13 October, the girls travelled to Dublin Zoo to mark Girls' Brigade Ireland 125th Birthday. The girls had a fabulous fun day out despite the weather, and we arrived back home in Donegal suitably exhausted!

Our Enrolment Service was held in Kilmacrennan Church of Ireland on Friday 16th November – 21 Explorers, 16 Juniors, 2 Seniors and 4 leaders were enrolled by Reverend Harry Gilmore.

On Friday 21st December, the girls took part in a night of Christmas Carol singing at the Community Carol Service in Kilmacrennan Church of Ireland.

On Friday 29th March, as part of the Service part of their badge, the Juniors and Seniors visited Abbey Village, Kilmacrennan. The girls sang and danced, and shared a cup of tea and conversation with the residents.

We ended the year on a very happy note with our annual Parent's Evening and prize giving on Friday 5th April. The girls performed a variety of short plays and musical numbers on the night, and a great evening was had by all!

Louise Diver - Captain

31st Co. Holy Trinity Letterkenny:

The Company started the year on Tuesday 11th September with our registration night, 22 Explorers registered that evening and four leaders, Heather McCarthy, Diane Thompson, Olivia Robb and Catriona Neely

The Explorers meet each Tuesday evening from 7pm to 8.15pm.

A programme was created for our meetings for the rest of the year and our parent helper rota was also incorporated into this and distributed to all the parents.

The first few weeks involved sorting out uniforms for the girls as well as our usual scripture and games. For the third year now we decided we would continue to do something for our local community so from September every girl brought in an item of food for our local food bank each week.

In October we prepared our shoe boxes for 'Team Hope' and had a cake decorating night which was great fun. We also decided this year to learn more about GB around the world so Diane organised a map of the world for us and we put pins in it where we knew there was a GB company. The girls really enjoyed this.

In November we continued with our scripture and craft and GB around the world and we had our Enrolment Service on Sunday 18th November. We also joined the girls in the company section for some Christmas card making it was great to have the older girls guiding and helping the younger girls.

December was a very busy month this year and we fitted in a trip to the cinema to see 'The Grinch' on Tuesday 4th December. The girls really enjoyed this treat as the company

section went too. We also presented the Letterkenny Foodbank with all the food that the girls had collected from September. We rounded the year off with a Party Night and games on 11th December.

We started back after the Christmas break on 8th January and this month the girls worked hard on making butterflies for our Display and learning the song 'If I were a Butterfly'.

February and March were very busy months with T-shirt designing and pottery painting when we joined with the company section to have some fun with a pottery painting class. We also made pancakes and for Mother's day we made cards and flowers. We managed all this and practiced for the display!

This year we had our display on Saturday 30th of March and the girls sang their hearts out 'If I Were A Butterfly' and 'The Whole World in his Hands' they also performed in a sketch that we adapted for them 'Seek Serve and Follow Christ' and some of our older explorers talked about GB around the world and how we are hoping to contact a company in Australia and Zambia.

We rounded the evening off with the presentation of our prizes and a well deserved cup of tea and a few tray bakes!

Heather McCarthy
Officer in Charge Explorers – 31st Co.

The Company started the year on Tuesday 11th September with our registration night, 26 girls registered that evening and five leaders, Jennifer Rankin, Elizabeth Forrest, Linda Anderson, June Moore and Danielle Sweeney.

We meet each Tuesday evening from 7.15pm to 8.30pm.

The first few weeks involved sorting out uniforms for the girls as well as our usual scripture and games. For the third year now we decided we would continue to do something for our local community so from September every girl brought in an item of food for our local food bank each week.

In October and November we prepared our shoe boxes for 'Team Hope' and had a cake decorating night which was great fun. We enjoyed baking nights and lots of different activities including crafts and games. We continued with our scripture and we had our Enrolment Service on Sunday 18th November. We also had some Christmas activities such as card making and baking, we joined with the junior section for this it was great to have the older girls guiding and helping the younger girls.

December was a very busy month this year and we fitted in a trip to the cinema to see 'The Grinch' on Tuesday 4th December. The girls really enjoyed this treat as the company section went too. We also presented the Letterkenny Foodbank with all the food that the girls had collected from September. We rounded the year off with a Party Night and games on 11th December.

We started back after the Christmas break on 8th January. We continued with crafts and games as well as bible studies where the girls would talk about different bible stories and what they thought the bible is telling them now in this modern world.

This year we had our display on Saturday 30th of March and the girls sang songs out of the musical the Greatest Showman and they performed two sketches which the audience really enjoyed.

We rounded the evening off with the presentation of our prizes and a cup of tea.

Jennifer Rankin - Captain

32nd Co. Clontibret:

We began the session with a registration and uniform evening and in October 49 girls and 8 Officers and helpers were enrolled in the company. In November we had a visit from a representative from Guide Dogs for the Blind who brought along a lovely dog and talked to the girls about the work they do and how the dogs are trained. The Juniors and Seniors held a skipathon and raised €605 for the Guide Dogs. In January we joined with the Boys Brigade and parents for our annual outing to the pantomime, a great night enjoyed by all. Every week the girls worked towards their badges with the Juniors and Seniors learning the art of bookfolding, bible lessons, cooking and a modern dance which they choreographed themselves and performed at the parents night. Our Explorers enjoyed learning drama, singing, cooking, bible lessons, games and crafts. The annual parents night was held in March and the girls were presented with their badges for the years work. Thanks to all who helped us in any way during the year and we are all looking forward to next session.

Jennifer Boyd – Captain

38th Co. Monaghan Town:

We started GB with our registration night on 12th Sept. We had 17 girls 9 juniors and 8 explorers.

Later in the year we had another 3 girls join.

On 13th Oct we shared a bus with Glaslough GB and headed to Dublin Zoo for the day with all other GB girls from all over Ireland. Apart from rain which lasted all day everyone had an enjoyable day.

In November we had our enrolment service in St Patricks Church. Thanks to Rev Ian Berry who was our Chaplin this year.

On 20th March we had our presentation evening when the girls got badges and prizes and we had an enjoyable evening.

Norma Martin - Captain

40th Co. Manorhamilton:

We began the year welcoming new leaders from far and wide and our membership grew to 115 girls covering 22 schools. It was going to be a busy year but one we would challenge ourselves and the girls, look at ways to be part of our community and of course have the usual FUN. The theme we began with was “Dare to be Different” and so all our programme included bible lessons, songs, drama, dance, crafts and so much more all relating to our theme and the girls all thoroughly enjoyed it all.

A few highlights

For the 2nd year in a row, we were delighted to be invited by the Bank of Ireland to lead activities at the Bank of Ireland Enterprise Night, which again was led by our Young Helpers. This again proved so beneficial in highlighting our organisation and growing our membership.



As our Community Initiative, we had been involved with Team Hope in Ballymote in Sligo for a number of years but as a GB team we felt we could bring and open a Depot closer to home. By the end of November, we had brought together businesses, sports clubs, community in nearby villages, the Active Age and schools all to be part of the new Depot in Manorhamilton which we named Team Hope North Leitrim. It was a fantastic community effort as we collected 1202 shoeboxes for children in Romania.

We were delighted to welcome Margery McElhinney, National President and Jacky Anderson, National Commissioner, Lesley Rue and many guests from District 5 to our display where we surprised Joan and formally said goodbye to her as National Director. It was a night to remember.

To conclude our year we had our Annual Camp where the theme “Dare to be Different,” continued and it was a camp filled with so many activities, which included baking, crafts and inspirational talks from some of our Young Leaders. We also welcomed Julie Patterson, the Sligo Rose of Tralee who spoke to the girls on her journey as the Sligo Rose and how God guided her on the rollercoaster of her year, which she spoke so openly about.

Finally when I travelled to Glasgow in June I was so delighted to meet in person, Alison Oliver captain of 1st Reddingmuirhead in Scotland whom we had connected with last year during the 125 years celebration. We have learnt so much from each other and we find it a real blessing as we continue our friendship with companies around the world.



40th Co. Bear Collection from around the 'GB world

Well it was a busy year but again where we stepped out in faith challenging ourselves with so new opportunities. We extended our community relationships, we welcomed our highest membership to date and most importantly we grew our leadership team where we all continue to “Seek, Serve and FOLLOW Christ” in everything we do here in Manorhamilton Girls’ Brigade.

Shirley Hewston - Captain

44th Co. Ramelton:

We started the year in September where we were delighted to welcome 29 girls with a mix of Explorers, Juniors, Seniors and Brigaders.

On the [18th of November](#) we held our Enrolment at [Sunday](#) Service, many thanks to the Rev Williamson who led the Service.

On [March 25th](#) we held our Display night, this was a special night as we celebrated 30 years of Girls' Brigade in Ramelton. We had the honour of inviting back founding Captains, Leaders and Chaplains to this event.

We look forward to the year ahead and want to thank everyone for their continued support.

Angela McKeever
Captain.

District 6 – South East

18th Co. St. Mary's Bunclody:

St. Mary's company Bunclody started back on Friday 5th October 2018 with leaders Dawn Porter Rothwell, Oliva Power and our 16 year old Rachel Rothwell and 14 girls, our first night back, we enjoyed a games night and a planning night for the coming season.

For the following few weeks the enjoyed playing games, the Halloween party, preparing for the opening service.

The leaders attended a Child Safeguarding Training evening presented by Olive Good and Joan Nicoll, who came to the Sunday school room in Bunclody.

The opening service was pencilled in for Sunday 18th November in St. Mary's Church Bunclody during Morning Prayer.

We had a visit from Santa at our Christmas party. We started back after the Christmas holidays on Friday 11th January 2019.



We had art & craft nights, game nights, a karaoke night, practicing our marching skills to take part in our local St Patrick's Day parade on the 17th March.

With Easter so late this year we finished the Girls Brigade season on Friday 12th April, we had our annual outing to Well's House Gorey on Saturday 11th May.

Our closing service took place on Sunday 12th May in St Mary's Church during morning service, this year our service was shared with the start of Christian Aid week.



We look forward to another busy season, starting next October.

Kathleen Rothwell - Captain