



THE GIRLS & BOYS
BRIGADE

AUGUST 2021

NEWSLETTER

Memories that will last a lifetime,
thanks to you!

Thanks to supporters like you, our first camp of the year was a success.

A dozen of our wonderful Year 6 students attended a three-day, two-night adventure in June at Pearl Beach on the Central Coast.

The camp provided a fantastic opportunity for our children to experience areas outside of Sydney, explore nature, participate in activities they wouldn't normally get to try, and bond with their peers and our staff.

The children experienced a lot of self-growth, increasing their confidence and relationship skills throughout the camp.

The children played laser tag, watched sunsets at the beach, hiked in the national park, enjoyed a ferry ride on Brisbane Waters, ate fish and chips, watched the pelicans, played lots of fun games and even went ice-skating.

With little sleep from all the excitement, everyone had a phenomenal and unforgettable weekend.

Thanks to you, children and youth can continue to grow their confidence and discover new experiences on future camps.



Have you seen our new website?

Thanks to the support of The Council of the City of Sydney, the Brigade has a whole new look!
Check it out at www.girlsandboysbrigade.org.au

Fostering inclusion during difficult times, all thanks to you!

As we continue to adjust to our new normal way of living with the ongoing pandemic, our priority is our children and youth. Your help ensures we can constantly adapt our programs and services to meet their needs.

Because of your support, we have been able to take our educational programs online and find innovative ways to hold the Vacation Care Program inside our building. These are just some of the changes you have helped make possible so the children and youth of The Girls & Boys Brigade can stay engaged.

Young people deserve to learn in a fun, safe and engaging environment and it's important to us that we stay dynamic and respond to their current needs and wants.

Our children have a diverse array of learning and physical abilities, health and home circumstances that require significant resources and assistance. I am proud that we can offer every child an innovative and unique program that allows them to feel heard, find their independence and most importantly, be included.



Inclusion is incredibly important to developing a child's social and communication skills and our focus is to ensure that during the pandemic, these skills can continue to develop both inside the Brigade and online.

Thank you for providing incredible support to the families we serve. Together, we can continue changing the lives of the children and youth at The Girls & Boys Brigade.

Stefan Lamour Jansson
Executive Officer

Thank you for inspiring Ash

Ash attends the Homework Program every day and likes to share her fun facts with friends, volunteers and anyone who will listen!

Your caring support helps inspire Ash to learn facts on every subject! Here's some she wanted to share with you too!



Hannah
spelt backwards
is Hannah

Hair &
nails
grow
longer
during
pregnancy.



You gave Victor a supportive place to go!

Victor was 7 when he started attending The Girls & Boys Brigade. His father had recently passed away and his mother, who spoke very little English, was surviving on a disability pension.

Attending the Brigade for over 10 years, Victor shared how the staff were there for him during some of his most challenging and life-changing moments.

"The staff were always there for me, offering me incredible support. Undoubtedly The Girls & Boys Brigade helped shape my values and my sense of identity," Victor shared.

Victor remembers the Brigade as a familiar space he would enjoy. He found comfort in the familiar faces and the activities and it was a place he could depend on.

Being from a Russian immigrant family, the fondest memories he has are of the conversations with the staff and the friends he made. With his mum not speaking much English, it felt like the only place he could go and be treated like a young adult, sharing his thoughts and ideas and curiosities.

Now living in London for the past several years, Victor works as a Chartered Accountant. Like many of us, he is looking forward to life returning to normal and seeing what the future holds.

It is thanks to caring supporters like you, that young people like Victor can find support for a promising future. We can't thank you enough for being there for Victor and others like him.

Thank you!



In Switzerland, it's illegal to own just one guinea pig.



Guinea pigs are such social creatures that they would get lonely without a friend.



The world wastes **1 billion metric tonnes** of food each year and one out of five grocery bags is wasted.



Rob's Father

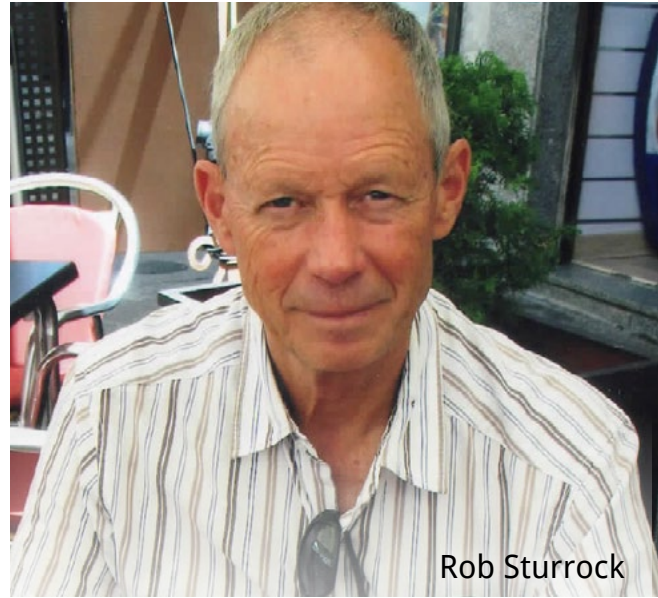
Rob continues what his father started

When Rob's father retired and he became Managing Director of his family's business, he continued what his father had started more than 40 years ago by supporting The Girls & Boys Brigade.

It wasn't until he retired and visited the Brigade that he immediately felt like part of the family. Seeing the place buzzing with children participating in activities and the experienced and enthusiastic staff, he knew the Brigade was an incredible organisation that he was dedicated to supporting for a lifetime.

Along with his father, Rob has chosen to leave a gift in his Will to The Girls & Boys Brigade so he can continue changing the lives of children, even after he is gone.

"I encourage others to do as I did, and organise a tour of the Brigade's headquarters and see for yourself the good work the Brigade is doing for local children in need. It will help confirm your desire to leave a bequest in your Will," Rob said.



Rob Sturrock

Golf Day Update

Due to major renovations at The Lakes Clubhouse, the 8th annual Golf Day has been postponed to

Monday, 25th of October 2021.

You can look forward to playing the championship conditions of the course and enjoying lunch in the luxurious 'new' clubhouse.

Shotgun start at 8am.



Friends of The GBB Reunion



The Girls & Boys Brigade is holding a reunion for past students, parents, staff, Board members and volunteers.

Come along to catch up with old friends and share your memories and stories.

Date to be advised, 2021

To find out more, please contact us at friends@girlsandboysbrigade.com.au

Classical Music Evening



9th December 2021



Internationally renowned Welsh classical music singer, Holly Holyoake, will entertain us.

To be held at the centre in Surry Hills, it will be an evening you won't want to miss.



Have you found us on social media?

Like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram [@girlsandboysbrigadesyd](https://www.instagram.com/girlsandboysbrigadesyd)