



THE GIRLS & BOYS
BRIGADE

Stories from the GBB

SUMMER EDITION 2022



We became Chefs for a day! Thanks to you!

Thanks to your support, our children had the incredible experience of cooking and dining at one of Australia's best restaurants, Cho Cho San in Sydney's eastern suburbs during Vacation care.

The children learned many new skills, from kneading dough for creating mini doughnuts, to filling dumplings and carefully crimping the pastry.

They learned how to work as a team and how to use new kitchen tools.



The children were invited to a Japanese tasting workshop and taught how the finest chefs make their creations taste sweet, sour or bitter through experimenting and tasting of flavours.

Finally, the children were delighted with lunch where they sampled their own creations along with some extra special dishes from the chefs.

Because of you, children are able to enjoy unique and educational experiences in a safe environment during school holidays.

Thank you!





Your support is changing lives. *Thank you!*

This year is our 140th year of helping children, youth and their families in inner-city Sydney. We have come so far and we have our incredible supporters like you to thank.

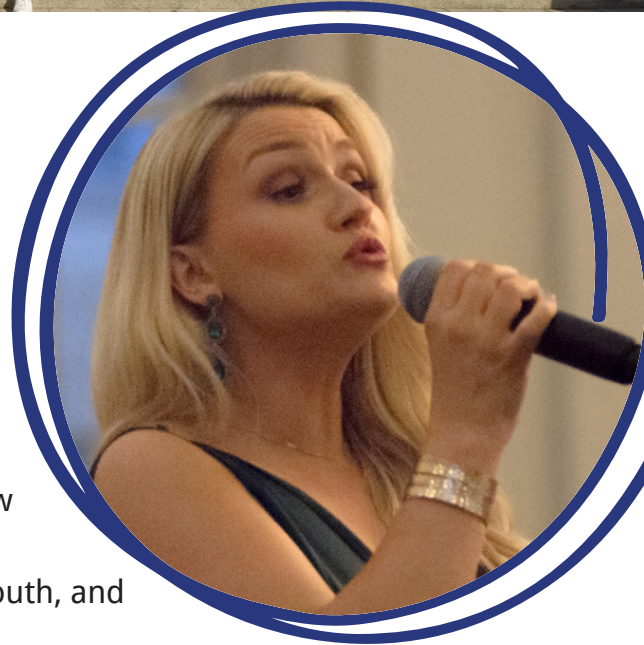
Our challenging year ended with a sold-out classical musical event and our annual golf day. The golf day was held for the first time at The Lakes which gave us the incredible opportunity to share our mission with many new supporters.

Both events raised much-needed funds for the children, youth, and families of the Brigade.

Thanks to you and other caring supporters, we received an amazing \$73k in our annual Christmas appeal. The funds will provide vital resources and educational tools within our Homework Program to give the children and youth a much-needed head start to their school year.

Thank you for caring about the girls and boys at the GBB.

Stefan Lamour-Jansson
Executive Officer



Last Christmas we had the support of some very generous "helpers".

Thank you!



45 Christmas Hampers



8 Christmas Puddings



200 Christmas Presents

Caring community partners and supporters provided extra special gifts for the children and families of The Girls & Boys Brigade.

Thank you to Dropbox, CountPlus One, City Tattersalls and Virginia (retired Homework volunteer), Tigerspike, Bloody Mary's Gazebo and Arthur Charles for the incredibly generous Christmas gifts.

Community caring for community.

Thank you!

When Paul and Michael saw the impact that COVID-19 was having on families in their local Surry Hills community they wanted to help in any way they could.

Founders of skincare company Antidote Essentials, also based in Surry Hills, Paul and Michael made the decision to generously donate a percentage of the company profits.

“As local Surry Hills parents we wanted to support a charity that was doing important work on the ground in our community. The Girls & Boys Brigade have been committed to assisting kids and families throughout this pandemic with practical support and essential services. This is a cause very close to us,” Paul said.

Paul and Michael were overwhelmed with the community support. Both loyal customers and parents and teachers from Bourke Street Public School were incredibly generous.

Thanks to Antidote Essentials for their generous support to the children and families we help. It’s our caring community, and supporters like you that help provide opportunities to children and families.



Antidote Founders Paul and Michael and their children.

You helped shape Samuel’s future.

“Making friends can be a difficult thing to do, especially as a kid. The best part of going to The Girls & Boys Brigade was the meaningful friendships I made. I met kids going through similar situations as me and it allowed me to feel more accepted and connected. These friendships have lasted to this day.”

Samuel’s mum was a single parent looking for a safe place for Samuel to go while she was at work. When Samuel and his mum first entered The Girls & Boys Brigade they received a warm welcome from the staff and Samuel felt right at home.

He remembers the games and the learning activities that were on offer to him which gave him the confidence to make friends.

Samuel recalls the incredible experiences he had on Vacation Care excursions, visiting places he would never have had the opportunity to see if it wasn’t for The Girls & Boys Brigade.

Towards the end of high school, Samuel faced uncertainty about his future. He found great support and advice from the staff who guided him towards his decision to study business and to one day become an accountant.

Samuel believes the Brigade played an incredible part in shaping his future, but most of all helping him feel safe and supported.

Thank you!



CountPlus One is always there for us.

CountPlus One are an organisation that cares not only for the children, youth, and families we support but also the staff and greater community of The Girls & Boys Brigade.

They have helped raise significant funds for the work we do, and along the way have formed a strong bond with our team.

As well as sponsoring events, providing Christmas presents for the children, donating funds to special projects and volunteering their time, they have been there for us, checking in over lockdowns, brainstorming strategies to help us increase our impact, and never saying no to a request for help when we need it.

We are very fortunate to have a long-term dedicated partner like CountPlus One.

Prior to Christmas, CountPlus One partnered with us to stage the Classical Musical evening. They saw past the endless barriers and changes to public health orders to forge ahead with an event that would make a difference to so many people over Christmas.

Their staff enjoy having a meaningful and purposeful community to be involved with and feel part of The Girls & Boys Brigade family.

Thank you!



Guests enjoying the evening



Fabulous Christmas presents



CountPlus One staff



Save the Date!

Trivia Night

31st March, 2022. 6:30pm

Don't miss our next Trivia Night. Get ready for another fantastic evening of dinner, drinks, divas and trivia!

Tickets are available at www.girlsandboysbrigade.org.au

While the stories in this newsletter are true, names and other identifying details of children and alumni mentioned have been altered to protect their privacy. Thanks for your kind understanding!



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