



THE GIRLS & BOYS
BRIGADE

Stories from the GBB

AUTUMN EDITION 2022



Our youth are making life-long memories, Thanks to you!

Six of our youth enjoyed a three-day, two-night camp experience at Basin View in the Jervis Bay area this March. Most of them had not left the Sydney area since Covid-19 restrictions were first introduced.

The days were full of adventures that our youth wouldn't normally experience without The Girls & Boys Brigade.

They visited Booderee National Park, the Kiama blowhole, and took a dolphin cruise around Jervis Bay. Everyone was left impressed with the beautiful flora and fauna of the area.



Between excursions, the youth spent hours at the local jetty sunset fishing.

The camp gave the youth a chance to get out of the city and explore new interests. They spent time in nature, bonding with their peers and creating fun memories that will stay with them for life.



Thanks to you, our children and youth can create life-long memories and friendships, that may not otherwise be possible without the support of The Girls & Boys Brigade.

You've helped create our family. Thank you!

In today's world, it's easy to feel like an outsider. That's why The Girls & Boys Brigade strives to help kids who walk through our doors feel like they belong!

A sense of community is important for everyone, especially people who are struggling to make ends meet. When we feel alone, it can be difficult to remain hopeful during tough times and cope with stress in positive ways.

Alternatively, knowing where to turn for practical help or a listening ear can positively impact and protect our physical and mental health.

That's one of many ways The Girls & Boys Brigade shines. Thanks to you, we provide our families with compassionate support with whatever obstacles they face. Our kids and youth view us as family, as we do them. Often they don't have access to this kind of support anywhere else.

Thank you for being there for the families we help in our community. Your generosity makes it possible for us to provide the important services that make our community what it is.

Stefan Lamour-Jansson
Executive Officer



The Girls & Boys
Brigade supports

150+

families
representing

21+

different countries



HOLA

40%

of our families
are from non-
English speaking
backgrounds



15%

are Aboriginal
or Torres Strait
Islander

We are watching Zak shine!

Zak has always loved performing, but it wasn't until he joined The Girls & Boys Brigade that he had an opportunity to pursue his passion.

In his early days at The Girls & Boys Brigade, Zak took every opportunity to entertain those around him.

He was constantly telling jokes that kept the kids and adults laughing, and he took pleasure in hosting trivia competitions at the centre.

The staff were quick to notice Zak's talent, and arranged for him to attend the Australian Theatre for Young People free of charge.

Zak has absolutely loved the experience and has been recognised for his excellent performances. On top of winning the Sydney Theatre Award for Best Production for Young People, his success has also led to paid work.

Zak's story perfectly demonstrates the impact of your support of The Girls & Boys Brigade. You help provide children and youth the opportunities to explore their interests, pursue their passions, and create bright futures for themselves. This is just the beginning for Zak, and we can't wait to see where life takes him!



It's thanks to incredible supporters like you that Zak and other children like him have the opportunities to go after their dreams.

Thank you!



85% are living in social/
community housing in Surry Hills,
Redfern and Waterloo



75% are single-parent families

Our services are
100% FREE
thanks to you!

Healthy and happy tummies, thanks to our partners!

The Girls & Boys Brigade Family Support Program helps families thrive despite challenges. One such challenge many families are facing right now is the cost of living, including the increasing cost of food.

That's why we were thrilled to partner with OzHarvest and provide families of The Girls & Boys Brigade free access to the Nutritional Education Skills Training (NEST) at the Refettorio.

The six-week program was nourishing in more ways than one, providing our families valuable opportunities to connect, learn, and gain practical experience preparing dishes that are:

**cheap* - at less than \$3 per serve

**healthy* - using accessible, nutrient-rich ingredients

**sustainable* - using up what's in the fridge or pantry

Our families gained knowledge and skills that will help ease the stress that comes with feeding a family, without compromising the health or happiness of themselves or their children.



Coming soon!

The Girls & Boys Brigade is delighted to welcome guests to a Classical Music Evening. This August, enjoy a delicious dinner and entertainment from special musical guests, including alumni of The Girls & Boys Brigade.

Further details to come.

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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