



THE GIRLS & BOYS
BRIGADE

Stories from the GBB

SUMMER EDITION 2025

Dancing our way into the New Year at the GBB

As we welcome our 143rd year at The Girls & Boys Brigade I am thrilled to share recent stories of joy, creativity, and growth in this newsletter.

Inspired by the support from generous donors, these school holiday programs have been some of the best we've had, offering the children opportunities to shine and discover their unique talents.

Dance holds a unique significance for children, especially those who have experienced trauma. It provides an avenue for expression that words often cannot convey, allowing them to channel their emotions into movement.

Through dance and movement, children can reclaim their sense of agency, build self-esteem, and experience the joy of creativity in a safe and supportive environment.

From ballet and ballroom to breakdancing and captivating Bangarra performances, each step has helped build confidence, resilience, and joy. Our programs empower children not just to overcome their challenges, but to thrive in spite of them!

As you read the stories, we invite you to be inspired by the successes from our programs, and we thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Your commitment and generosity have the power to transform lives, creating not just memories but lasting impacts in our community.

Here's to another year of growth.

Warm regards,



Pop, Lock, and En Pointe at Summer Vacation Care

This summer at The Girls & Boys Brigade, children were invited into a world of dance to unlock their creativity and confidence.



The most boisterous of children had no problems belting out theatre tunes or showing off their breakdancing skills, but others had to find their confidence.

Mina*, for example, is only five and this summer was her first time accompanying her older sister Violet* to GBB for the holidays. During a dance class the teacher asked everyone to organise themselves into small groups and choreograph their own dance before performing it in front of the group. One by one each group hopped up to perform their unique choreography to 'Pump It Up.'

Mina's group of three was the last to take their turn, but Mina refused to get up. With a little encouragement from the two other girls in her group Mina hesitantly followed them out to the stage area. The rest of her peers cheered her on, clapping and wooing as she and her ensemble finished their dance.

Before she had a chance to rejoin the group off-stage, Violet jumped up to give her a big hug and a kiss, letting Mina know how proud she was of her.

Mina's experience at The Girls & Boys Brigade not only nurtured her creative talents but also instilled a sense of confidence and resilience. We can't wait to see how much Mina's confidence grows as she continues her journey at GBB.





Reclaim the Future: Empowering Youth Through Upcycling!

We're thrilled to share the success of our recent work with the wonderful people at Reclaim the Future, an upcycling business in the inner west of Sydney.

The owners are passionate about supporting domestic violence survivors through skill-building, and together we co-designed a program that not only teaches practical skills in woodworking and figurative painting but also fosters personal growth and community connections.

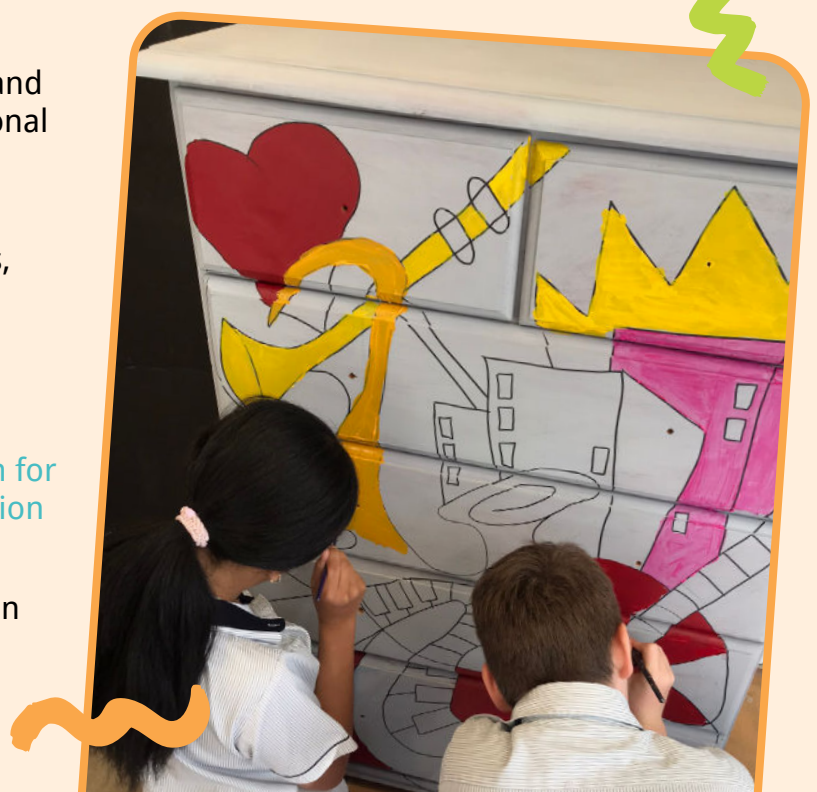
Over five weeks, eight enthusiastic participants engaged in exciting projects, crafting three stunning tallboys themed around Music, Street Art, and Nature.

The teens not only learned valuable skills but also documented each other's strengths, receiving heartfelt recognition for their efforts alongside framed participation certificates.

Looking ahead, we plan to extend session times to allow for greater hands-on

experience and are exploring the addition of smaller projects that teens can take home or even sell, amplifying their connection to the skills they've learned.

As we prepare for our upcoming Trivia Night auction, where the finished tallboys will be showcased and sold, we're grateful to all our stakeholders for your continued support. Together, we're not just reclaiming furniture, we're reclaiming futures.



AltX Group Gets Creative: Easing Back-to-School Pressures for Families!

The pressure of gathering and purchasing school supplies for students heading back to school can be stressful - especially for single-parent families.

Thankfully, a bright idea struck the AltX Group team to alleviate some of that burden.

With enthusiasm and a team spirit, the wonderful people at AltX Group pooled their personal funds to create vibrant backpacks bursting with essential school supplies.

From stylish lunch boxes and water bottles to colourful stationery, every detail was thoughtfully considered.

The backpacks, featuring popular brands like Smiggle and Kikki K, were met with beaming smiles and excitement all around. Seeing the children's faces light up as they received their beautifully stocked bags was a reminder of just how impactful this initiative was.

Thank you, Alt-X Group, for stepping up and making back-to-school season a little brighter for our families at GBB.



Hosted by
yours truly...
Jackie

2025

Trivia Night

We are primed for another fabulous fun night of laughs, friendly competition and Trivia at The Tea Room, QVB. Grab your mates and book your tickets today as this event always sells out. It's a great way to support GBB.

Scan the QR code to purchase tickets!

THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2025

6:30 to 10:30pm

The Tea Room, QVB

Tickets \$150



Follow our socials for more fun photos and feel-good stories about your impact!



TheGirlsBoysBrigadeSyd



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The Girls & Boys

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While the stories in this newsletter are true, names and identifying details have been altered to protect privacy.