



Our Vision: Girls' lives transformed; God's world enriched



# God's Teamwork

Over the past 22 years at the Blacktown Girls' Brigade Company we have held a Leader's Retreat weekend or a planning day to organise the year for our girls. This has been attended by the Leaders and over the past two years we have included the older Pioneers as well.

The Retreat weekend was originally Friday to Sunday, and now we have extended to 4 days, from Thursday night until Sunday morning. We always hold it in January, when most of our Leaders are on holidays.

On the Friday we plan the activities and dates for the year, and we also go through the dates from the Church, Regional and State. We then look at camps, two every year, outings and other Company events.



On the Saturday we plan our achievement work for the year, which includes weekly planning. Last year was the first time we used the "Explore" program and we are continuing to use it again this year.

The Pioneers who attend the Retreat have input into the activities and help with the planning of the camps, and also go on a roster for other activities. We have Queen's Award girls and we sit with them to see how they are going and what they need help with, going through their folders with them.

This Retreat is also a time for us to socialise and talk to each other on different issues that we may be facing in our lives. Every morning we set aside time for devotions and a refreshing personal time with the Lord. We go out to dinner on the Friday evening to the local Golf Club and have a bit of retail therapy together on the Saturday afternoon, which includes Coffee Time.

This year we took part in the International project. We designed a T-shirt and painted it with the slogan on the back "#I AM GB". We then wore our shirts to Govett's Leap Lookout at Blackheath and filmed ourselves yelling into the valley "What GB means to me". This was great fun and it was not only the Leaders but also the Pioneers and Young Leaders who took part.



This weekend is a great time for our Leaders, Young Leaders and the Pioneers who attend. The planning that comes from this weekend is carried out throughout the Company. Everyone knows what they are doing and what is happening. We call it God's Teamwork.

Lisa Neale - GB Blacktown Company Coordinator



# Kidsreach Conference

## 2016



On 20<sup>th</sup> February, Girls' Brigade NSW and Boys' Brigade NSW were part of the Kidsreach Conference.

Kidsreach is an opportunity to be inspired and network with other Children and Family Ministries.

On the day, you are able to participate in electives that will help you to upskill and gain a large number of resources for you to use within your Church Children's Ministry and Girls' Brigade Companies. You also get to listen to International Keynote Speakers who inspire you.

We also had the opportunity to get up in front of everyone at the Conference to speak about both Girls' and Boys' Brigade, in a "Spin it in a Minute". Thank you to Jenny Fayth (Girls' Brigade NSW State Commissioner), who did an awesome job.

During the Conference there is also an Expo, where people can explore and talk to other Children's Ministries organisations and also purchase resources.

Girls' and Boys' Brigade was part of the expo, where we talk to people about the mission of our organisations.

It was an awesome day to connect with other Children's/Family Ministries.

We are looking forward to next year's Kidsreach Conference, and we hope to see you there.

Elizabeth Neale - GB NSW Company Liaison



Why 'Brigade Affect'?

We use 'affect' because it is a verb, which means to produce a change in something.

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Why not ask the girls in your church Company what they think of Brigade?



The Brigade Affect has been put together for churches who host a Girls' Brigade Company. If you wish to receive this publication via email, please contact Elizabeth on [gbswliaison@brigadeaustralia.org](mailto:gbswliaison@brigadeaustralia.org)

If you would like more information, contact your church's Girls' Brigade Captain or call us on 1800-819-704

