



**GIRLS'
BRIGADE**
New South Wales

The Brigade Affect

Volume 5, Issue 21, August 2018

This issue of Brigade Affect newsletter has stories, from leaders from Girls' Brigade NSW, who attended this years International Conference of Girls' Brigade in Zambia, Africa July 2018. These stories will reflect their experience of their time in Africa and seeing how Girls' Brigade transform lives at an international level.

ICGB ZAMBIA 2018

I arrived in Livingstone, Zambia on 15th July 2018. We flew from Sydney to Livingstone with a one night stopover in Johannesburg, South Africa. The plane trip was smooth even if it was 14 hours long, with the highlight of seeing icebergs over Antarctica.

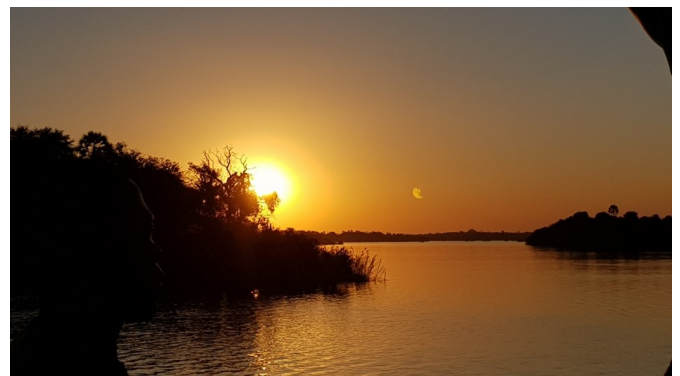
Katherine from Girls' Brigade Zambia met us at Livingstone airport and drove us to our accommodation at the Oriental Swan Hotel. Over the next 5 days our group enjoyed each other's company while doing many sightseeing tours. We got to explore one of the 7 wonders of the world, Victoria Falls. What a wonderful world God made for us. Fantastic views. We walked the track around the falls and took in the amazing sights while getting soaked from the fallout of the waterfall and even though we had raincoats on we got very wet.

On another day we explored 4 countries in 1 day. Travelling through boarder immigration from Zambia to Botswana, where we did a safari in the Chobe National Park seeing many native animals which included Impala, elephants, monkeys, giraffes, hippopotamus, birds and buffalos. Then after a cruise on the Chobe River where we touch Namibia, we travelled back to Zambia via Zimbabwe. The next few days were spent exploring other African national parks and animals.

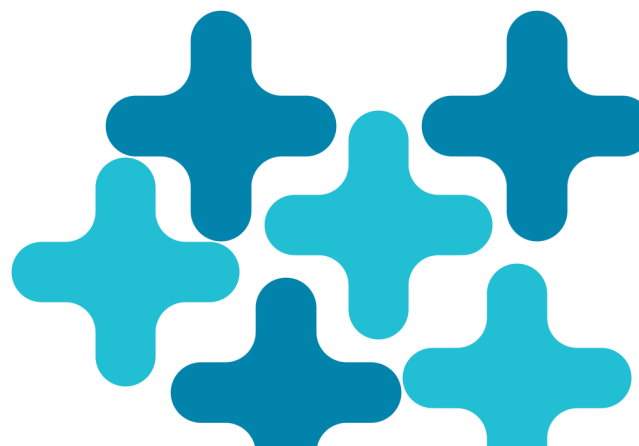
We moved motels on the day ICGB started and along with over 350 Girls' Brigade women from 26 countries, we celebrated 125 years of our wonderful organisation. Over the next 7 days we worshiped together with music from a local Zambian church choir and were given wisdom through key note speakers from around the globe. I was able to get to know ladies from the Pacific at our Fellowship meetings and enjoyed the social experience of talking to Girls' Brigade ladies from around the world.

It was an amazing experience and one that I would love to do again. What a privileged to observe Girls' Brigade ladies disciple their girls and leaders on the mission that is Girls' Brigade.

Kaylene Trembath— Girls' Brigade NSW Executive



*Girls' lives
transformed*



ICGB 2018 – Zambia in Africa

In July 2018 I was part of Australia and Pacific fellowship to go to ICGB in Zambia.

I travel with 8 others, 3 young leaders from my company as well as 2 other leaders and myself from my company on the 14th July to have some time on a holiday to see Zambia before ICGB.

There were many adventures as we went and saw God's amazing works within Africa. We went to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, the falls was amazing and to see how the falls are part of God's world and we got very wet. We had High tea at Victoria falls hotel which was relaxing.

We got to go to Chobe National park in Botswana, where we saw many animals in the wild from Giraffes, Elephant (even baby elephants), Hippos, birds and other animals. It was fantastic time.

Other day we went back to Zimbabwe and we got to touch, hug an elephant name "Jumbo" which was my highlight of the trip. I cannot believe how close we got to the elephant and I will never forget this experience. We also got to see White Rhino in the wild which was amazing. We went on the steam train and a sunset cruise after ICGB which was a great time.



After our adventures we arrive at ICGB. Throughout the time at ICGB we got to dance, sing and have fellowship with other leaders in Girls' Brigade though out the world. I have many new friends and met with old friends that I got to see again during this time.

The workshops were inspiring especially the workshops lead by Vivienne Aitchison on "Pruning for growth" which was about change. This made me think about other leaders within Girls' Brigade who do not like change and we need to encourage them that we need to change as part of the world and the society today and the future.



I was also sadden to hear about some of the African countries and also the Caribbean countries have many problems within Girls' Brigade. Girls that are force into married at age 12 years old, abuse within their families and many other problems. I pray for these countries and the leaders that they have strength to teach the girls about God and his wonders.

We have many problems over the world and we just pray to God to guide and help us along the way in teaching the girls about him.

I have been to 4 ICGB's and all 4 are different in many ways. I made many friends that I love as well as I love what we do in Girls' Brigade and we need to encouraged our girls in our company what their lives can change within Girls' Brigade and how God can change their lives.

I encourage others leaders to go to ICGB, to meet and have fellowship with other Girls' Brigade leaders across the world, it is an amazing opportunity to have.

Lisa Neale— Blacktown Girls' Brigade Company

Inter-Cultural Aspects at ICGB

What a great experience it was, to once again enjoy the different cultures, from the African ladies to the ladies in the Pacific, from the Caribbean to Europe and of course our sisters in Asia, with their dancing and singing, to the worshipping of the different cultures which was so amazing. This is my 6th ICGB and each one has been different, teaching us many ways of communicating, worshipping and the different cultural diversities of our Girls' Brigade World. The colours of our cultural dress, our singing and the different ways we demonstrate our worship. This is all brought together when we sing the same song or say the Lord's Prayer in our own language. What an amazing feeling we all get, showing that we are all joined with the one purpose in our life — to be one in God. I always go away from these Conferences uplifted in Christ, praying for our sisters from around the world, and realising that they also have the same issues that we have with our girls in our areas. We are truly blessed in the work of transforming lives, enriching God's world. Blessings to you all, Renelle Neale— Pacific International Vice President



My ICGB Highlights

There was a lot of highlights for me at ICGB and here are just a few.

Worship time from the fellowships. Experiencing the awesome ways that each fellowship share in worship and the atmosphere and spirit of everyone, just moved you. It would be amazing to share this with everyone in Girls' Brigade.

Another highlight was the Inter-fellowship discussions. This is where we



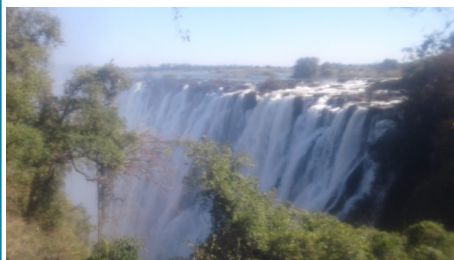
were able to hear other countries stories and concerns about things that are happening in their Girls' Brigade companies. This was also a way I develop connections with the other Girls' Brigade leaders. Just listening to their stories gave a greater understanding of Girls' Brigade International for some of us in our group. I felt a connection to the ladies from Girls' Brigade Nigeria and the struggles that they face in their country particularly in the area of child marriages and human trafficking.

The workshops that I had attending were really great. I attended Advocacy, Lead like Jesus and Pruning for Growth, and from attending these workshops, it has help me and gave me ideas to develop at Girls' Brigade and how I would like to help Girls' Brigade at different levels.

Some of us, were given the opportunity to plant trees in the local hospital and I put my hand up to do this as the environment is important , as well as helping other. It was great to be able to do this.

Zambia was a lovely place and the people were very friendly and helpful. It was nice to know that there was someone to help you when you need it. The ladies from Girls' Brigade Zambia did an awesome job as an ICGB is a big event. It was also great to meet girls from Girls' Brigade Zambia. They were so keen to know about Girls' Brigade in our country.

Another highlight was the African animals. This was one thing I was looking forward to seeing before, during and after ICGB. It was great to see these animals in the wild, especially elephants, white rhinos hippos and many more. Maybe not the baboons.



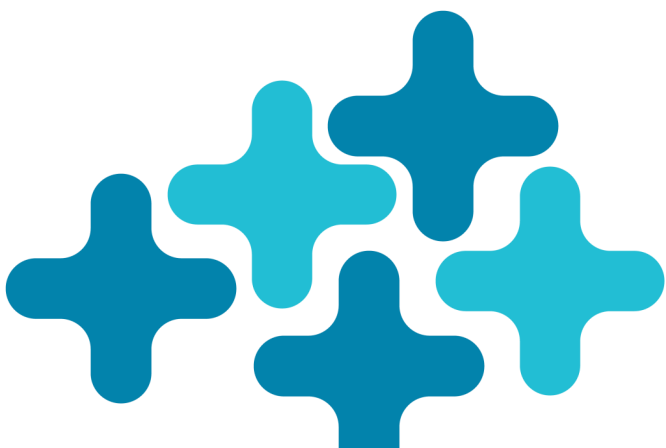
It was also awesome to be able to get up close to the Elephants in Zimbabwe. I thought I would never be able to hug an elephant. It was truly an amazing experience.



I loved seeing and hearing the wonderful and amazing Victoria Falls. It is truly something you cannot describe until you see it.

Our vision in Girls' Brigade is to Transform girls' lives and enrich God's world and by attending ICGB, you can truly see this is happening throughout the countries where Girls' Brigade is making an impact.

Elizabeth Neale—Blacktown Girls' Brigade

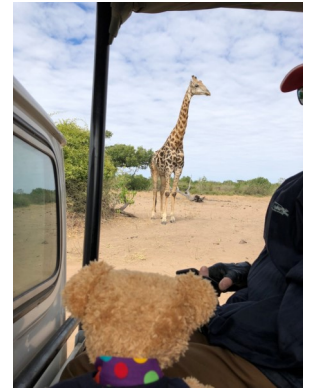


*Girls' lives
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The International Conference of Girls' Brigade (ICGB) was a great experience in not only being able to see another country but getting to know so many people who are part of my Girls' Brigade Family.

I also got to know some of my fellow NSW Girls' Brigade leaders better as we travelled together and did tours before ICGB started.

It was interesting to find out how different countries run their Girls' Brigade programs, some through churches, some through schools - even though we all do it slightly differently we have the same mission.



I was encouraged by some of the talks held, especially the one about change. Listening to the session about Change made me consider my own company and if we had changed anything recently and could we do anything better.

My company was contacted by a company in Ireland at the end of last year. They wanted to reach out to other countries in our 125th year to learn more about Girls' Brigade in other countries. While I wasn't able to meet Shirley from Manorhamilton, I was able to meet with two other ladies she had contacted and we sent her a photo of us together. The Manorhamilton Bear we were sent by Shirley travelled to ICGB too and met some new friends.

Fiona Doherty— Girls' Brigade Armidale

REFLECTIONS of ICGB

"Help! No PJS" The luggage was sent straight through to Livingstone, Zambia! "Will it be there?"

Not a great start to the Conference for Girls' Brigade in Africa.

Suitcase: "Yes, here I am a bit battered but your clothes are safe."

"Your car awaits Madam" he said and we were whisked away through the streets of dirt with a Mansion just around the corner. Signs greeted us "Welcome Girls Brigade to Zambia" we felt like royalty.

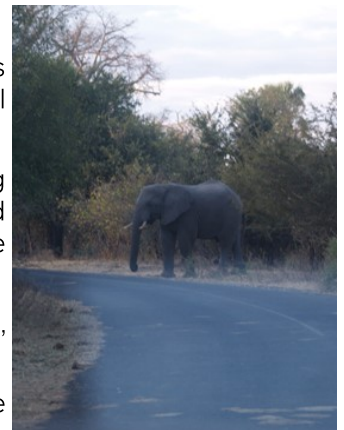
"Welcome to Zambia" The Hotel was a delight, a pool, spa bath and glorious sunny day. A wander around the grounds let us meet up with the other Girls' Brigade women and some Baboons out for a feed.

A drum roll and children emerged to practise for the opening ceremony, the joy as they marched, sang and danced was a sight to behold. I can't wait to see the real thing!

Voices singing, ladies dancing for joy to the Lord. Government Officials affirming our Motto, Seek, Serve, Follow Christ. Workshops, worship and being challenged to "spread our wings" ended with encouragement by our New Girls' Brigade President. What's left?

A tour of Chobe, giraffes, elephants swimming the Zambezi River, Victoria Falls, Rhinos, Hippos, the sight sent our senses reeling.

"Come again, Thank you for visiting" said the elephant as he strolled down the road.



God is Good, All the Time

Jean Hathaway— Springwood Girls' Brigade Company



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 at nswliaison@girlsbrigadeaustralia.org.au

If you would like more information, contact your church's Girls' Brigade Captain or call us on 02 9896 7255