



Courageous

The Girls' Brigade WA

Annual Report 2016

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Government of **Western Australia**
Department of Local Government and Communities



Who we are

Vision

To see girls' lives transformed and
God's world enriched

Mission

To encourage girls and young women to become
followers of the Lord Jesus Christ by providing
culturally relevant life skills, training and education
through programs that develop them spiritually,
physically, emotionally and socially

Core Values

Living

Community

Partnering

Uniqueness

Safety

Fun

Companies

Armadale, Bassendean, Bicton, Bull Creek, Canning
Vale, Gosnells, Greenwood, Kalamunda, Kalgoorlie,
Kenwick, Mundaring, Narrogin, Noranda, North Beach,
North Lake, Riverton, Roleystone, Woodvale

State Chaplain's Report

Tamara Pilgrim

2016 started with a challenge to the leaders from the film We Bought a Zoo. The character Benjamin Mee shares with his kids that "sometimes all you need is 20 seconds of insane courage, just literally 20 seconds of embarrassing bravery, and I promise you something great will come of it."

When the angel appeared to Mary to share with her that she was expectant with child, it took her 20 seconds of insane courage to respond -

"I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled.'" (Luke 1:38)

As I think about the year that has been for GB in WA I can't help but wonder what came from those brief moments of courage that happened this year for the girls, the leaders, companies and at State level.

The courageous moments where leaders and girls said yes to God's leading. The courageous moments where girls walked into a company for the very first time. The courageous moments where that Pioneer signed her Queens' Award application. The courageous moments where a leader

chose to step aside to mentor a younger leader.

I reflect on the line of the Christmas song... "Mary did you know...?". There was much that Mary didn't know, but she knew enough to know that she could trust God and from this trust her courage rose. As we reflect on the year that has been I find myself thinking "did you know...?". I thank God that for our leaders at all levels, they may not have known exactly what would come beyond their courage but that they stepped out courageously knowing that in their courage God's word would be fulfilled; that girls' lives would be transformed and God's world enriched.

As we read the reports provided here, I suggest that as we read them we think of those courageous moments that were so fleeting they were not noticed. May we give thanks for those moments, for those who found the courage and praise God that His word was fulfilled as a result.

As we celebrate all that was 2016, I pray that the seeds that were planted will be watered and continue to grow that they may produce a harvest beyond all that we could ever imagine.

State Commissioner's Report

Nikola Lewis

The Girls' Brigade International theme for 2016 was Courageous. In Joshua 1:9 it reads

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

This is a great verse to remind us that with God we can achieve great things, we can have the courage to try something new or something challenging. With this in mind, we stepped courageously forth and partnered with Compassion. This partnership with Compassion allows GBWA families to sponsor children from the same area in the Philippines. When GBWA have a group of 30 sponsored children Compassion will arrange a trip for us to Manila to visit the sponsored children. Compassion child sponsorship not only transforms the life of a child living in poverty, but the lives of families in Australia as they see the impact their small sacrifice has to transform the lives of children.

It is amazing to hear how much sponsorship can change a persons' life and it was great to be able to hear Irene Chilo speak both at the Compassion Fun Day and at our State Awards Ceremony. Irene was a Compassion sponsored child, who grew up in the slums, and through her sponsorship the whole family benefited and were able to improve their quality of life and education. Irene is now currently visiting Australia with her husband. I look forward to hearing many more wonderful life changing stories in the future.

It was a great year to have our National Chaplain and National Commissioner come and visit us. All the leaders were invited to a coffee and desert evening with them and we were also able to enjoy spending time with them at our Leaders Retreat and PLT. It was a great time of fellowship and leadership development.

As we move into 2017 – the year of empowerment – let's all be courageous in the knowledge that our God is with us no matter our season, and is more than able to equip us as we minister to the girls and young women of Western Australia.

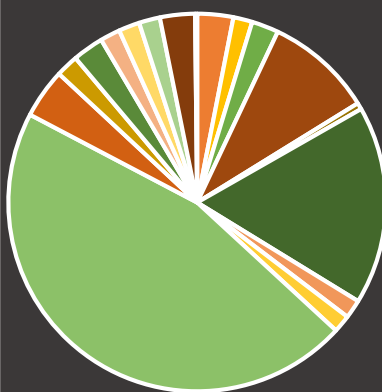
Statistics

17 companies
participants 505

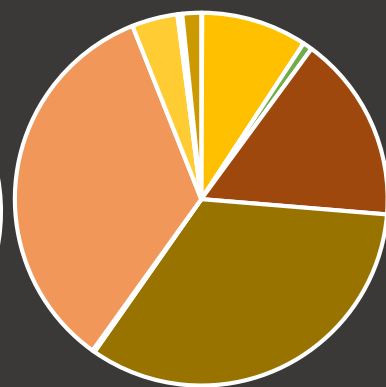
35 PLT braids awarded
12 preliminary
12 recreational
11 indoor camping

W.A. girls and leaders who went to Fonomarae, Canberra 15

55%
percentage of W.A. Seniors who attended Senior Camp



Expenses
45% Office Salaries
16% National and International Fees
9% Camps
29% Other Expenses



Revenue
34% Grants
33% State Fees
16% National and International Fees
9% Camps
8% Other Income

Our major funding is provided via the State Government, through the Department for Local Government and Communities. GBWA is accepted as a service provider of Youth Development Services and we are grateful for the ongoing financial support. This data represents the Operational Budget for 2016 and may vary from actual income and expenditure.

Governance

The Girls' Brigade WA is governed by the State Council, whose job it is to generally control and manage the organisation

Each region also has a regional executive that oversees regional meetings and facilitates the planning of regional events

Specific programs are facilitated by trained volunteers

Day to day running of the State is handled by the State Office

State Commissioner
Deputy State Commissioner
State Chaplain
State Treasurer
Regional Coordinators
Youth Representative
Minutes Secretary

Western Region
Coordinator
Assistant Coordinator
Chaplain
Secretary

Southern Region
Coordinator
Chaplain
Secretary

Northern Region
Coordinator
Assistant Coordinator
Treasurer
Chaplain
Secretary

Eastern Region
Coordinator
Assistant Coordinator
Chaplain
Secretary

Training Coordinator
Queen's Award Coordinator
The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Leader

State Administrator

Communications Officer

Nikola Lewis
Irene Daniels

Tamara Pilgrim
Christine Morgan
Listed below
Katie-Ann Peart
Tabitha Lewis

Brenda Martin
Jeanette Knight
Carolyn Axtens
Karen Hodson

Lydia Kulienburg
Teresa Bailey
Tanya Orchard

Coral Anderson
Irene Daniels
Karen Howson
Joanne Jones
Sandra de Munnik

Yvonne Waddell
Christine Farr
Glynis Turpin
Michelle Bunn

Yvonne Waddell
Coral Anderson

Christine Farr

Amy Munro, Tabitha Lewis
Shirley Brindley

PLT and Senior Camps

Courageously we decided to run a leaders retreat at the same time and location as PLT. This was to enable the best use of the time with our National Commissioner, Mrs Marian Ashford, and our National Chaplain, Mrs Natalie Koustos. We combined together for time of worship and fellowship, and then the girls went to their courses, while the leaders had time to learn about Peacewise and Caremonkey, and fellowship together. Marian and Natalie were so inspired by the Peacewise session that was led by Mrs Sheela Nathan, that they began planning how to give all state commissioners some Peacewise training.

To change things up for the girls, instead of doing an evening activity, we played wheelchair basketball. The girls had a great time, and were given an opportunity to understand the courage that people with a disability face. They also felt muscles in their arms the next day that they don't normally feel! Feedback from the girls was that they all enjoyed camp, and would love to return to camp again in the future (unless they had completed all the courses) We had 35 girls and 25 leaders attend the PLT and Leaders retreat. All courses were offered.

With the success of last year's Senior camp, we upped the ante and decided to run Senior Camp from the 18th to 20th March, rather than our previous tradition of every second year. We had an overwhelming response, and realised that in the future we would have to limit the number of places available. We were fortunate to again be able to use the wonderful facilities at Southern Hills Christian College in Bedfordale. It was an incredibly successful camp, Camp started Friday night with a sausage sizzle. This was followed up with games in the gymnasium to burn off the extra energy. Saturday was filled with activities, including canoeing, giant swing and high ropes course. Sunday was more relaxed with a craft activity and clean up and pack up.

Overseeing all of this Tamara Pilgrim, our State Chaplain, came in to lead devotions and the girls developed a deeper understanding of how to try and be courageous, to have the strength to stand up for what they believe in, and how to apply this in their lives, as was demonstrated in the bible by Daniel, and Jesus.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Marilyn Louwen who with Michelle Ward were a great assistance to the smooth planning and running of the camp.



2016 Highlights

Cards of Hope

On the 29th June 2016, five girls from Bull Creek Girls' Brigade had the honour of representing GBA by presenting Cards of Hope to the Foreign Minister, the Hon Julie Bishop. The girls gave Ms Bishop over 250 handmade Cards of Hope praying for the release of the missing girls.

Over 250 young women from a boarding school in Chibok, Nigeria were kidnapped by Boko Haram on 14 April 2014. 218 girls remain missing and separated from their families. 6 of the girls that were taken were part of Girls' Brigade (Abigail, Deborah, Grace, Awa, Esther and Deborah).

The Cards of Hope that the girls around Australia have made were to remind the government, and ask them to do their best to ensure the safe return to their families of the remaining 218 Nigerian school girls.

The girls told Ms Bishop "We are doing this to act against the injustice and help bring God's hope and light into this dark situation, we would like the government to do its best to ensure the safe return of the remaining girls."

Ms Bishop was impressed with the care and thought put into the cards, and told the girls "I get petitions and letters, but this is the first time I've had cards made with such love and care, I think you are wonderful".



2016 Highlights

Holiday Club

Mt Pleasant Baptist held a Holiday Club during the second week of the July School holidays. Over the week over 200 children came through the doors with just over 100 children every day. On the Friday we handed out bags with information on local companies. Thank you to everyone who came and helped this event. In review of this activity it is always worth asking the question of how is this strategic in our development of GB. Liezl from Mt Pleasant was going to prayerfully consider the possibility of starting up GB and BB at Mt Pleasant. Over 200 children attended, and a number of those made new commitments or recommitments to the Lord.

Cambodia Mission Trip

For the last six months of the year a team of 13 met monthly to train and prepare to teach in English at a Methodist Cambodian Children's village in early January 2017. The team included both the Woodvale and Riverton GB Captains plus a Riverton Pioneer. We discovered the city mission school and children's village run a joint Boys and Girls Brigade program weekly. We taught craft, drama, science and social studies lessons. We gave out food parcels to a nearby village, went on a mission and cultural exposure trip to Phnom Penh. Overall the whole team came away having been stretched, in a good way!



2016 Highlights



National Youth Week

On Saturday April 9th, 26 Seniors and Pioneers braved the forecast of wet weather and met near the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club in Peppermint Grove to spend the day Kayaking.

Dave Stevens from Western Paddle Sports started early with Angela McEachan, Carolyn Horton, Ka-ren Chew, Nikola Lewis and Sharon Masters, along with Andrew Bailey and Peter Lewis (from Boys Brigade) to provide some initial instruction on canoe paddling. The girls then got to practice their skills in the protected bay before having morning tea.

After that we broke into smaller groups and paddled around the bay to Mrs Herberts Park in Dalkeith, where we stopped for lunch. The sun started to think about coming out and we headed back across the bay in much warmer temperatures but with more chop in the middle of the bay. On arrival back at Keane St we all enjoyed a hot chocolate with marshmallows. As there was some free time, the girls chose either to continue Kayaking or come ashore to play games.

A great time was had by all, and proved that you can almost get 10 girls on a Kayak, so long as you don't want to travel far and are happy to get very wet! Thanks also go to Amy Munro for helping put the day together and to Sarah Menaglio for being our first aid officer and lunch deliverer!

2016 Highlights

Compassion Fun Day

In 2015 the WA State Council discussed their desire to see GB WA have a more missional mindset in line with GB World Wide's vision to see 'Girls' lives transformed, God's world enriched.' They wanted their girls and leaders to understand the issues that girls and women face in developing countries. They also wanted them to be exposed to the conditions that those living in poverty face, to help them understand how materially rich Australians are, and how they can make a practical difference in the lives of girls living in poverty.

To this end the Council organized and ran a Fun Day on 28th May, in partnership with Compassion, with the aim of increasing awareness of the value of child sponsorship and encouraging people within the GB and broader community to sponsor children. The day included a bike ride, face & nail painting, Cards of Hope, apple bobbing and a whole range of other family fair type activities. A total of 10 children were sponsored through the event. If 30 are sponsored, Compassion will facilitate a field experience to enable sponsors to meet their sponsor children, an exciting opportunity worth pursuing.



#iamgb

#iamgb was an initiative by Girls' Brigade International to share the stories of Girls' Brigade girls and leaders. Because of being part of the Girls' Brigade family, girls have shared that they feel confident, courageous, loved and accepted. Launched on UN's International Day of the Girl on Tuesday 11 October 2016, the #iamgb (I am Girls' Brigade) video harnesses the transformational impact of Girls' Brigade across the world. You can watch it at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ok32xd_GwI

Girls' Brigade International President Vivienne Aitchison shares: 'Because of being part of the Girls' Brigade family, girls and leaders in Asia, Africa, Caribbean, Europe and Pacific have shared that they feel confident, courageous, loved and accepted.'



'Girls around the world say that they experience opportunities to discover what it means to live life to the full through Girls' Brigade! We are thankful for all of our leaders who are investing in girls and impacting their lives and for God's faithfulness to us.' The #iamgb initiative gathered incredible stories of transformation from girls across the world – too many to include in one video. It aims to inspire girls, encourage GB leaders and demonstrate the value of Girls' Brigade's ministry.

Bailey (16) from GB New Zealand shares: 'Because of GB, I feel both accepted and loved. I have been going to GB since I was 7 and grown up with most of the girls and leaders. Words can't explain the feeling I get when the girls want to see me and hug me and share their week stories.'

Girls are also encountering Jesus in new ways through local GB groups. 'GB has made me into a new person and taught me more about God. I feel confident to tell people about God and what He through the Girls' Brigade has done for me' says Samantha from GB Jamaica.

Award Recipients

Congratulations to all of our 2016 award recipients. Each one of them has displayed remarkable dedication and perseverance to achieve the following awards.

Queen's Award Recipients

Tash Bunn	Kalamunda
Grace Sobey	North Beach
Amy Ullrich	Bull Creek

Pioneer Pin Recipients

Madeline Choules	Roleystone
Britney Crabtree	Gosnells
Katie Hourston	Greenwood
Angela McEachan	Kwinana
Harmony O'Connor	North Lake
Katrina Scolaro	Roleystone
Abigail Wong	Canning Vale

Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, Bronze

Lydia Lai	Canning Vale
Lynette Lai	Canning Vale
Natasha Hill	Riverton
Chelsea Hanham	Riverton
Sophia White	Riverton

100 Hours Voluntary Service Certificate

Ivy Chamberlain	Riverton
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Queen's Award; Training

Coral Anderson; Yvonne Waddell

Six girls participated in the Queen's Award program in 2016, at different stages. Three completed the program and received the Queen's Award, our highest international award. It was disappointing to have no applications to commence the award program this year and ways of promoting the award have been discussed at Committee and State Council levels. There is still a lot of misunderstanding around as to who can enter the program. The QA program is open to all girls from the year they turn 14 although these girls will need to take the full four years to complete the program as a candidate cannot finish until the year of her 17th birthday. I would encourage all Captains to talk with their Pioneers about the QA program and the benefits it brings. Part of the QA aim is to help girls grow in their faith journey, let's encourage and support all our Pioneers to achieve this award.

Current QA Participants

2014 Entrants

Naomi Weickhardt Riverton

2015 Entrants

Cassandra Lardner Greenwood
Sarah Menaglio Greenwood

30th January – State Leader Training at Mundaring, including Care Monkey training.

28th February – Trainers meeting at State Office for National update.

12th March – 9am to 3pm at State Office for Level 1 and Level 2 Leader training

1st July – Leader Training at Kalgoorlie for Duty of Care and Level 2.

12th to 14th August Leaders' Retreat at PLT – Care Monkey Training with National Commissioner

I commissioned two Mundaring leaders: Melissa Lawton in June, Sarah Appleton in November.

During the year I was in touch with Haylee who was appointed by GB Australia to update our Pioneer and Leader Training. As this update was in progress some further training was conducted at local levels by experienced leaders while we await the new format training.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award

Christine Farr



After much planning and rearranging the 2 Bronze Level Overnight Hikes went ahead in the October school holidays following the cancellation of the April Hikes. The compulsory Training Day was held on Sunday 11th September after another change due to Netball finals! The weather for both Hikes was challenging and very wet with the first Saturday being extremely windy. Camping arrangements were changed so that the group was able to sleep inside for both Hikes. They set their dome tents up inside (as they free stand) and still enjoyed 'camping'!

The Hike dates were: -
Practice Bronze Hike – Saturday 1st to Sunday 2nd October 2016
Qualifying Bronze Hike – Saturday 8th to Sunday 9th October 2016
Mrs Sunu Rozario was the Hike Leader with Francisca Cohen accompanying her for both Hikes.

The following girls did a great job of hiking despite the difficult conditions and deserve congratulations: -
Shalene Thomas, Sarah Naylor, Suzanne Jamieson, and Ivy Chamberlain (all from Riverton Company), Renee Appleton (ex-Riverton and now Mundaring Company), and Ivy's friend Catherine Allen (who was doing The D of E Award through her school).

I was able to purchase containers to store all the smaller items in the new Camping cupboard in the Storeroom at the Office. This has made the gear much easier to access and use. Thank you to State for reimbursing me for this cost which was well worth it.

Western Region

Brenda Martin

2016, the year of Courage, yes both leaders and girls and some parents too tried a variety of new things this year.

Bicton Company-continues to have an innovative program for their small company with input from willing parents and church members who help out in various ways.

The year's GB program has covered 'Australia', Cooking, The Olympics, GB knowledge, Samaritan's Purse-'Love in a Shoebox'; and spiritual lessons along the way, Mother and Father special theme nights, fundraising sale, and their special Awards Night.

Bull Creek company- some of the girls took part as ushers at the local church's special 40th anniversary celebration. Overall Bull Creek company has had a great year and finished the year with a slideshow presentation of what the girls had done and enjoyed at GB throughout the year.

Narrogin company- had a busy year, they have kept their 5 new girls (some of indigenous background) throughout the year. Their company is a multi-cultural place with diverse spiritual backgrounds. The Senior and Pioneer girls had a Photo Shoot where they dressed up and had a local young lady who had won an Amcal Award come to do their make-up. This had a profound effect on the GB girls' self-esteem. Later the Senior girls helped serve at a local YouthCARE (Chaplaincy) dinner held at the church. In term 2 the company grew to 33 girls and they commissioned a new leader- Mrs Lorette Naude'. The company is very grateful for the continued

support of their local church.

North Lakes company- sponsored a couple of their Pioneers to attend the 2016 Fonamarae, one of these girls came away encouraged to be more confident and came to realise that GB leaders want to encourage and guide them on their walk with the Lord. Congratulations goes to North Lake company on celebrating their 25th anniversary during the year! They held a special High Tea that the Seniors and Pioneers planned, prepared food, set-up the room and served the tables of special guests, mums and younger GB girls.

The leaders were able to promote GB in various local primary schools. One of their Pioneer girls has been able to use her leadership skills as she helped assist with Kung-Fu lessons, by leading younger primary children in the required activities.

Riverton company- has had a good and challenging year implementing CareMonkey with many multi-lingual parents who were too shy to admit they were not fluent in written English; and ChildSafe.

A highlight, at the Easter Party and Easter Reflections events 32 visitors came and heard the gospel message presented in creative ways. Then as part of OUR BRIGADE the MOTTO, the Seniors and Pioneers learnt the 'Two Ways To Live' gospel presentation and how to share it with friends and family. Later at the End of Year Award Night the Seniors presented 'Two Ways To Live' in drama with artwork as well as in a power point to their families.

Southern Region

Lydia Kulienburg

Southern region members continued to meet regularly in 2016 for sharing, encouragement and fellowship over breakfast and AGM dinner. In 2017 Sheela Nathan will be the Regional Chaplain and Shona Teune will be the Assistant Regional Coordinator. As a region, we ran a stall at the Compassion Fun day, our Seniors attended the Senior State Camp and Pioneers attended the Pioneer Leadership Training. Congratulations to Britney Crabtree (Gosnells) and Abigail Wong (Canning Vale) on receiving their Pioneer Pin Awards and to Lydia Lai (Canning Vale) and Lynette Lai (Canning Vale) on receiving their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze awards. We praise God for sustaining each of us and using us for His service and our prayer for each company is for even more girls to join and new leaders as several are not able to continue Brigades in 2017.

Gosnells GB enjoyed their busy year with several activities. There was a Family Day at Woodman point where families enjoyed swimming, playing cricket and Frisbee, building sandcastles and shared in a BBQ dinner. They celebrated with Church Parades, Prayer Partners, Mothers' and Fathers' nights and held a battery fundraiser. Parents enjoy chatting with each other as they wait during Brigade time. It is encouraging seeing the Pioneers take up more leadership roles and becoming young leaders. They praised God for opportunities and for families, girls and leaders that He has bought together and for new families coming to church.

Throughout the year in **Kenwick** GB each girl and leader was encouraged to look to God and realize He cares for them. They enjoyed the various activities and the two pioneers assisted at Government House. They faced a number of challenges and others stepped in to help and encourage. Altogether they praised God for providing leaders to nurture the ever increasing numbers God brought to them.

Canning Vale GB leaders were encouraged to include the gospel message in every story and devotion so that the girls may have a better understanding of Jesus. They are thankful to God for all the opportunities they had to share the gospel with the girls at Brigades and pray that He will continue to work in their hearts. It was heartwarming to see the older girls take care of the younger ones as they played or ran part of the achievement.

The Canning Vale and Kenwick companies come under the care of one church and worked together on joint activities. They enjoyed a Pacific Island themed sleepover as part of Operation Reachout, organized by their Pioneers as part of their leadership braid. They concluded the year with Presentation night where all the girls sang a song in PNG pijin. The church prays for them regularly and members help out as able when needed. Leaders joined the Boys' Brigade Canning Vale leaders in an end of year dinner and shared what they are thankful to God for in Brigades.



Northern Region

Coral Anderson

2016, the year of Courage, the year we were challenged to try something new, look for creative ways to share the gospel with our girls, to explore innovative program ideas and to be courageous before our Lord and Saviour in our prayer life. This year we moved the emphasis of our quarterly meetings to sharing life together and supporting each other to be Courageous.

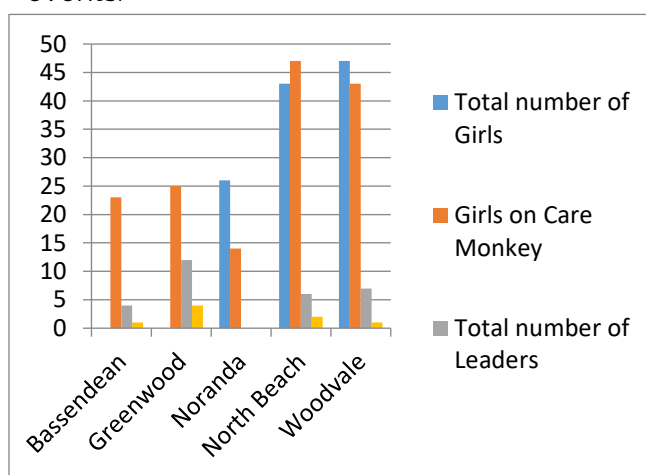
- In February we met for breakfast and our Chaplain Jo encouraged us to be Courageous in our everyday life, to look for opportunities to share our faith with those we work with. We also shared times when we had to rely on God and be Courageous. To finish we shared our Courageous dreams for the year.

- Next time we met, our State Chaplain Tam, joined us for Soup and Dessert. Tam then led us in a time of considering what to Be Courageous looked like. After sharing how courage looks to us and Tam drew it altogether and challenged us to look at the 'Courageous' required to kneel before God and ask Him to lead being prepared for whatever He replied.

- Our third meeting was planned to make us all Courageous and to climb on board with all the new IT that GBA was using, the intricacies of Office 365, the resources of Care Monkey and the benefits of ChildSafe were all going to be revealed, unfortunately we were unable to get a quorum on two dates so a small group of us met for brunch and a chat about ideas for 2017.



This year our companies were involved in the National Youth Week, Kayaking Event, a Regional Walk to raise monies for the Girls' Brigade International fund, Give a Girl a Hope and the GBWA Fun Day for Compassion as well as participating in their church family events.



It was exciting to see young women from our region being presented with their awards at the Annual Awards Presentation afternoon

- Grace Sobey, North Beach was presented with her Queens Award and
- Katie Hourston, Greenwood received her Pioneer Pin

As we come to the end of our year of "Being Courageous" many of our young women are being asked to 'rise up, take courage and do it' by taking on more leadership roles in their companies and in the region. As we move into 2017 and the theme Empower, let us do all we can to empower these women, support them and journey with them in their new roles. The challenge is also to each of us to trust God for His power as we continue to serve Him and be part of His mission to grow His Church.

Eastern Region

Yvonne Waddell

Mundaring Company – As always this busy Company has enjoyed an active year, growing from 40 to 51 girls. They have been involved in Mundaring Shire and local church community events and fairs with GB promotion and craft activities. They supported Samaritan's Purse "Turn on the Tap" project raising \$60. In turn they received a \$500 grant from the Shire of Mundaring which was used for administration and kitchen equipment, a large water jug and skipping ropes. Girls and leaders marched in the local Anzac March. Leaders commissioned during the year were Melissa Lawton in June and Sarah Appleton in November.

Kalamunda Company – With a leadership team well assisted by two Young Leaders, the company was very happy to once again have enough older girls to run a Senior group. The new programme is proving popular with the girls and leaders are enjoying presenting it and believe they are seeing growth in their girls. Through the year the company has enjoyed church and community events and has experienced steady increase including seeing Pioneers in Leadership roles.

Kalgoorlie Company – With their very committed leadership team they began the year with 35 girls and finished with over 50. With Family Fun Nights at the roller skating rink they shared enjoyable activities while engaging with the local community. It has been encouraging to see girls coming through to Pioneers. The annual Company Bush Camp was a highlight as were church community

events. The company enjoys support from parent volunteers and all Company events are well attended. A training evening was held for Captain and three leaders in June.

Roleystone Company – Though small in number the company has a steady leadership team and enjoys a mix of programmes. The annual Mother and Daughter Company camp was held in Busselton with canoeing and Operation Reachout activities. The biggest Morning tea Cancer Council fundraiser at Roleystone Shopping Centre raised \$600. The company joined the church's 75th Birthday Celebrations, their Spring Fair, their Christmas Fair and worked in the community at the Kelmscott Show.

At our March meeting the "Courageous" theme was discussed in relation to Regional goals and favourite Bible verses. In June leaders met for lunch and fellowship at Fairbrossen. Also in June a Regional Operation Reachout Day based on Europe and focussing on Ireland was held at Roleystone. Throughout the year all companies had special nights such as pool and water nights; dress up nights; Easter, Pentecost and Christmas activities; Mother's and Father's day activities.

We are very grateful to Glynis, our chaplain, who faithfully leads us in a spiritual direction at each meeting. Glynis supports us through all our activities and events with regular prayer and practical assistance. We thank God for her and for all the blessing of this year.

State Administrator's Report

Tabitha Lewis

2016 bought changes in staff in the WA State Office. Due to ill health, Amy Munro finished in her position as State Administrator and Events Coordinator early in the year. Angela McEachan continued to help in the office throughout the year, but left at the end of the year to concentrate on her academics. We thank both these lovely ladies for their input and work they have completed in their time with Girls' Brigade WA.

Shirley Brindley is our Promotions and Development Officer and continues to work 1 day a week. Her role consists of searching and applying for Grants so that we can provide new opportunities for our girls; promotion of Girls Brigade so that our brand is more recognisable in the community; updating The Girls' Brigade WA Facebook page and our website, www.girlsbrigadewa.org.au; and communicating with and updating our Church Partners. We really appreciate Shirley's quiet confidence in what she does and her ability to get the job done.

In June, Tabitha Lewis filled in for the role of State Administrator. Her primary role is to provide support to the Executive, liaises with government and

provides general book-keeping, administration and maintenance.

Administration

Some of the specific administration duties included

- Meeting all government reporting requirements.
- General maintenance of building and grounds.
- Collection and collation of Statistics and Fees
- Update and distribution of Leaders Directories
- Assist with the organization of AGM
- Contribute with organization of Awards Afternoon
- Aid with the administration of PLT
- Support with administration of Leaders Retreat

Unfortunately, Kwinana disbanded at the end of 2014 due to lack of leaders. Armadale is in recess, prayfully waiting for more leaders so that they can resume their program. Even with the closure of two companies, the total decrease in the number of girls was only 29 (534 to 505). This is encouraging as it shows that our existing companies continue to flourish.

Region	No. of Companies	Pioneers /Yng Ldrs	Seniors	Juniors	Cadets	Total Girls	Leaders	Assistant Leaders	Chaplains	TOTAL
Western	4	16	16	50	23	105	18	2	4	129
Southern	3	11	11	39	16	77	10	3	3	93
Northern	5	14	44	62	46	166	19	8	3	196
Eastern	5	17	38	61	41	157	15	7	6	185
Sep 2016	17	58	109	212	126	505	62	20	16	603
Sep 2015	19	63	119	205	147	534	66	30	18	648
Sep 2014	20	61	71	278	156	566	60	27	18	671

Communication's Officer Report;

Friends of Brigade Report

Shirley Brindley; Friends of Brigade

Publicity and Company Support

- Six ebulletins were sent to church partners throughout the year. Feedback has been positive from leaders and from churches. One comment was 'It is good to read what is happening in Girl's Brigade other than our own company'.
- All GB companies were sent a promotional personalized company flier
- A4 tear off poster for each company
- Individual trifold company fliers are available
- GB schools were emailed with individual company details in Term 1 and in Term 3 of 2016.
- GB group details sent to relevant community newspapers in February
- Powerpoint for State Presentation. Photographs taken at the event were used for publicity – Facebook, leaflets and website.

Little Aussie Directory

- In 2016 GB South companies were placed in The Little Aussie Directory in February - Bicton, Bullcreek, Canningvale, Riverton, Gosnells, Kalamunda, North Lake. The website is now live
- Free insert in Little Aussie Directory for April for Bassendean, Noranda and Woodvale

Website and facebook

The GB website - <http://girlsbrigadewa.org.au/> designed by Red Licorice was fully functional throughout the year. Regularly updated with news, events and the ability to have online bookings for events. Each company can have individual updates

and details. Regular enquiries have come through the websites contact page. Facebook was regularly updated.

Grants

We were grateful to receive the Youth Week 2016 and AIM volunteer grants.

Friends of Brigade

Friends of Brigade is a group of women who are no longer involved in GB company work but still have a heart for Brigade and wish to support the leaders as they can.

The Annual General Meeting/Fellowship Day was held on Saturday 18th June 2016 at the GBWA office. During this meeting a donation of \$250 was made to GBWA State Council, to be used in an area of need in The Girls' Brigade WA as determined by the State Council. We received a letter from State council thanking us for our donation, and that the money received would be used to cover the costs of training for new leaders, and their name badges. The names of the new leaders would be forwarded on to us so that we can pray for them.

