



**GIRLS'
BRIGADE**

Western Australia

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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STATE CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Being asked to be the State Chaplain of Girls' Brigade was probably one of the most challenging things for me as I had always looked up to our State Chaplains and to actually be asked to be one was amazing and I am thankful for the challenge that the Lord has given me. I have always loved the involvement I have had with Girls' Brigade over 40 years and am thankful for the opportunity to continue with that in a different role.

This year was the 125th year of Girls' Brigade International and so I knew that it would be extremely busy and with lots of celebrations. I started a prayer journal at the beginning and it has really helped me to pray for companies, leaders and girls and their families. I have seen many answers to prayer already for which I am so thankful to God.

I intended to visit lots of companies and did manage to visit a few. Narrogin and Kalgoorlie were top of my list as they are our country companies and I also visited Kalamunda, Mundaring, Riverton, Gosnells and handed out our special Bibles to some of those companies and reporting on others. But mainly, it was such a joy to spend time with the girls and leaders and sometimes bring a Devotion.

Another highlight for me was attending the State Council Retreat, which helped us all to focus on our goals and work out ways to achieve those goals with prayer and action and it looks like we will be having some new companies in WA soon which is really exciting.

I attended the YouthCARE conference and handed out leaflets advertising Girls' Brigade and encouraged the Chaplains attending there to consider inviting girls from their schools to a local GB Company. One Chaplain even expressed an interest in starting a new company which is being followed up this year. I sent Birthday cards to all members of State Council and also to any leader that I heard of that was sick or bereaved. Throughout this year I have also mentored Elizabeth, the Chaplain at Kalamunda Girls' Brigade which has been really mutually encouraging. I intend to

have more contact with Company Chaplains this year.

Doing the Devotions at the Senior camp was also such a highlight and it always encourages me to see girls who are seeking to serve Christ through Brigade and their churches and communities. Many other occasions come to mind like the GB Leaders Celebration day at Riverton where I also brought the Devotion and bringing a Word to the Girls and Boys from Brigade at the Brigade Youth Day beside the Swan River, and the Governor's Prayer breakfast and the AGM.

I was unable to attend the State Awards this year due to a previous holiday over East which had been booked for a while but attending the State Council meetings has kept me informed on what is going on in GB WA and National. There has been a lot of work done by the State Council concerning the Constitution and changes like the Board and I congratulate all the members on their diligence and commitment.

This year I have attended 7 funerals of people I love and this has also been quite confronting for me. Some of them were young people and throughout these times of sadness and supporting the grieving families I have learned to lean on the Lord Jesus even more and work with His strength.

I am sure there are so many other things that I can give thanks to God for but mainly I thank Him for allowing me the privilege of serving Him in this role. I look forward to visiting many more Companies in the coming year as He leads. Being State Chaplain has encouraged me to be more committed to my prayer life and also to reading His Word and as I prepare Devotions for Council. Once again, I am thankful for being a part of Girls' Brigade and look forward to what the Lord is going to do in the coming years.

Glynis Turpin
Girls' Brigade WA State Chaplain

STATE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

2018 has been an exciting year in Girls' Brigade WA as we have celebrated 125 years of Girls' Brigade internationally. I had the honour to be able to attend ICGB in Zimbabwe, Fonomarae here in Perth, and National Conference in Tasmania.

The year began by hosting Fonomarae. The theme was "Pure Gold" which was based on 2 Corinthians 4:7. We sought to share with all participants that our true worth comes from within and that all are considered worthy and valued by God who chose each one of us. It was great to see our younger leaders rise to the challenge of hosting and increase their leadership skills. With Fonomarae being hosted in our state, we had a great number of our girls attend and be inspired by the relationships they were able to form with girls around Australia.

To celebrate 125 years, we used the opportunity to be more visible in the community by getting articles into the church papers, (Baptist Advocate, and Uniting Revive). We also had some radio advertising on 98.5 Sonshine FM, as well as some of the local papers. We also had the privilege of two of our Queen's Award candidates reading the bible at the Governors Prayer Breakfast. Which we also were able to take eight other Queen's award candidates.

Over the last few years, in an effort to retain the Seniors (school years 6,7&8), we have been running a State Senior Camp. This year it was over filled, and we had to commence a waiting list, what an awesome problem to have! We are wondering if the flow on effect of these camps has led to an increased interest in QA, we had the largest number for a long time register into the program.

It was great to see in the National Stats the growth in company members, 10 companies from WA appeared in the National list which had 45 Companies mentioned. For WA it shows that more than half of our companies have increased in size, unfortunately with the closure of a company, the overall numbers for the state are similar to last year.

We are blessed to have great staff, who are keen to see GB grow. We were able to employ a new training person for seven hours a week, to take the pressure off others in the office. On our State Council, Cassie stepped up to the role of youth representative and it has been a blessing to have her input and see her leadership skills develop. Sarah took on the role of State RMO (Risk Management Officer) and that took a lot of pressure off the State Commissioner.

A new Constitution committee was formed and worked through rewriting the GBWA constitution to be in line with National and to also meet the Incorporations Act requirements in WA. It was great to see the team work together, as well as give and receive feedback from the regions. The end result was a new Constitution was passed with no amendments at the AGM, leaving us more time to celebrate the value of our leaders.

We thank God for the wonderful opportunities he has given us to transform girls' lives and enrich His world.

Nikola Lewis
Girls' Brigade WA State Commissioner

GBWA AT A GLANCE

VISION

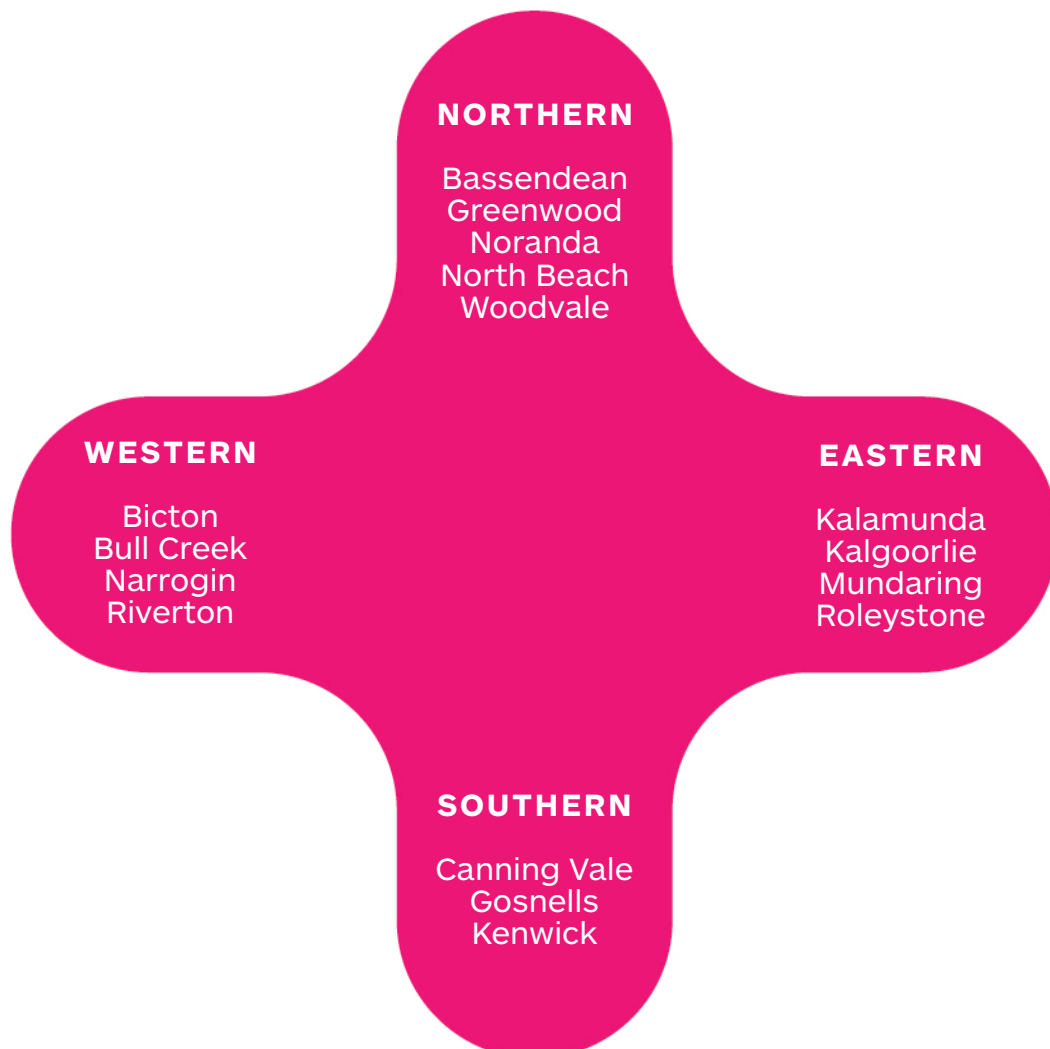
To see girls' lives transformed and God's world enriched.

MISSION

To help girls become **followers of the Lord Jesus Christ** and through self control, reverence and a sense of responsibility to find true enrichment of life

OUR COMPANIES

We have 16 companies in total - 14 in the Perth metropolitan region, and two regional companies. They are organised into four regions.



CORE VALUES



LIVING

We live our lives with God at the centre. Our relationships are centred on Him and rely on His word and direction.



COMMUNITY

We promote a sense of community and belonging within companies.



PARTNERING

We partner with churches to reach local communities with the good news of Jesus Christ.



UNIQUENESS

We accept the uniqueness of each girl and leader, using our individual talents to serve others as we grow.



SAFETY

We require safety for all girls and leaders.



FUN

We have fun in everything we do!

Girls' Brigade Western Australia is a member of Girls' Brigade Australia, however it is independently incorporated and legally its own body. In turn, Girls' Brigade Australia is a member of, but a separate entity to, Girls' Brigade Worldwide. Girls' Brigade Western Australia has adopted the core values of Girls' Brigade Australia, and the mission and vision of Girls' Brigade Worldwide.

IN 2018



NUMBER OF GIRLS IN GIRLS' BRIGADE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Cadets 120 **Juniors** 191
Seniors 131 **Pioneers** 44



AVERAGE GROWTH IN GIRLS PER COMPANY FROM 2017

3.7%



NUMBER OF LEADERS

115, including 17 chaplains



TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

616



GIRLS WHO WENT TO FONO

19



GIRLS IN THE QUEENS' AWARD PROGRAM

9



AMOUNT PROVIDED TO COMPANIES VIA THE COMPANY GRANT FUND

\$2,500

As part of our funding through the Department of Communities we are required to seek feedback from participants and volunteers. Here's some of the things they had to say.

LIFE SKILLS

Girls at one Company have been working on their child care achievement; they were all keen to have the opportunity to hold a real baby as many of them had not had that opportunity. The girls were given an introduction to good parenting skills including child development, ways to engage with young children in play, good nutrition and resources available to parents.

They visited a crèche and also had a Mum with young children talk to them about being a Mum. The girls really enjoyed the hands on programs and now have some basic parenting skills that they will be able to draw on in the future.

BELONGING

A Young Leader who was a challenging Cadet and Junior told me the other day that she wants to be a leader as she sees us as her family and wants to help others to belong and enjoy GB.

LEADERS

In 2018, I began leading the Cadets with my sister... It is still a learning experience for us, as we work to be patient with the girls, as sometimes they like to talk a lot! Finding the balance between listening to the girls, and then getting them back on track, is something that we're learning!

But honestly, it's such a blessing to see these little ones enjoy themselves and share little comments during devotions.

SHARING THE GOSPEL

At Father's Night, the devotional speaker talked on David and Goliath, but on how God had used this boy's past to prepare him. How he had to face many lions and bears in his youth but God had always been there for him and helped him through the most difficult situations. And it was because this young person had had to lean on God that he had faith to go into what seemed like an impossible challenge. But David had faith in his Heavenly Father and knew that if it was God's will nothing is impossible.

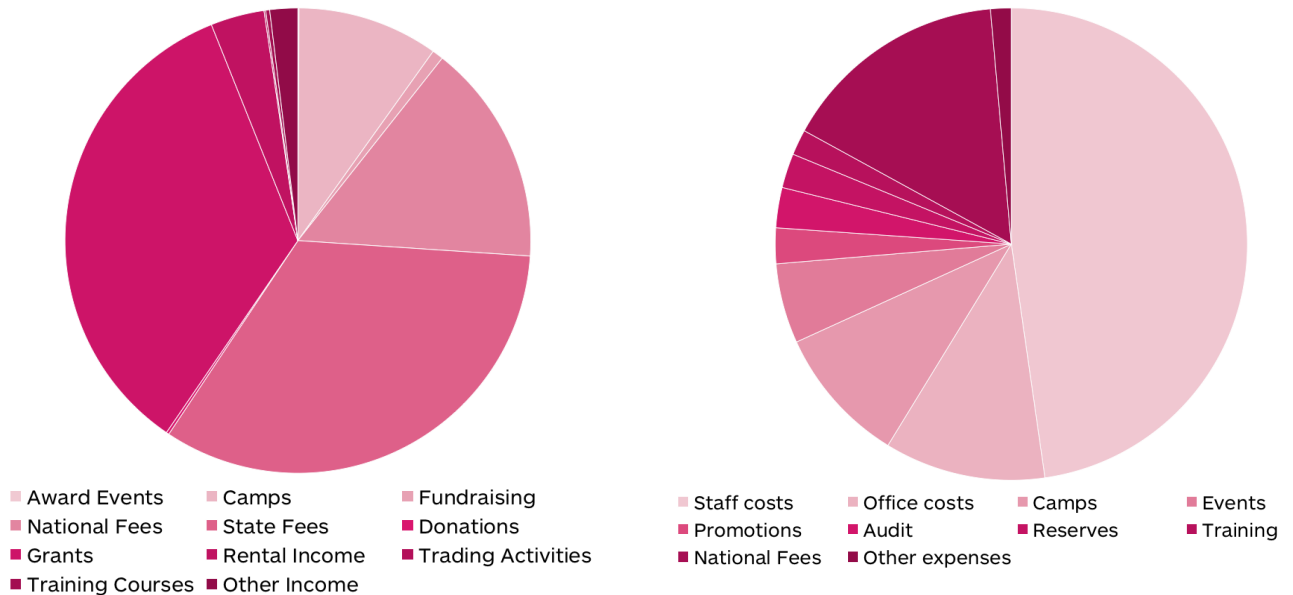
Many of our girls have faced more bears and lions than I ever will on my life and I am sure that God has a plan for them and God can use anything for good. The speaker ended the devotion asking the girls and father's to trust in God even when we face lions and bears as he is bigger than any of it.

FINANCE

2018/19

We would like to extend a thank you to the Department of Communities, without whose generous support we would not be able to operate as we do.

2017/18 OPERATIONAL BUDGET



Note the above figures are from the 2017/18 operational budget and may vary from actual income and expenditure.

GOVERNANCE

Girls' Brigade Western Australia is managed by the State Council, which is comprised of the State Commissioner, Deputy State Commissioner, State Chaplain, State Treasurer, Regional Coordinators, and any appointed members, including the Youth Representative.

2018 STATE COUNCIL

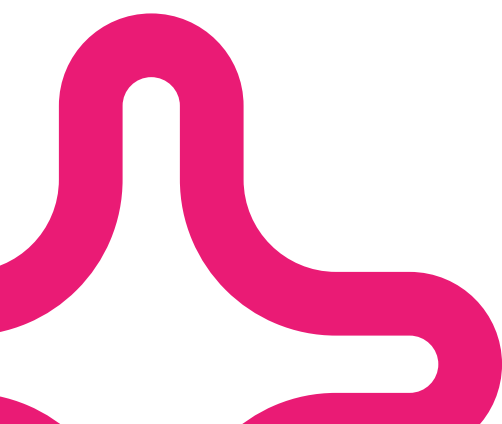
State Commissioner
Deputy State Commissioner
State Chaplain
State Treasurer
Northern Region Coordinator
Southern Region Coordinator
Youth Representative
Events
Minutes Secretary

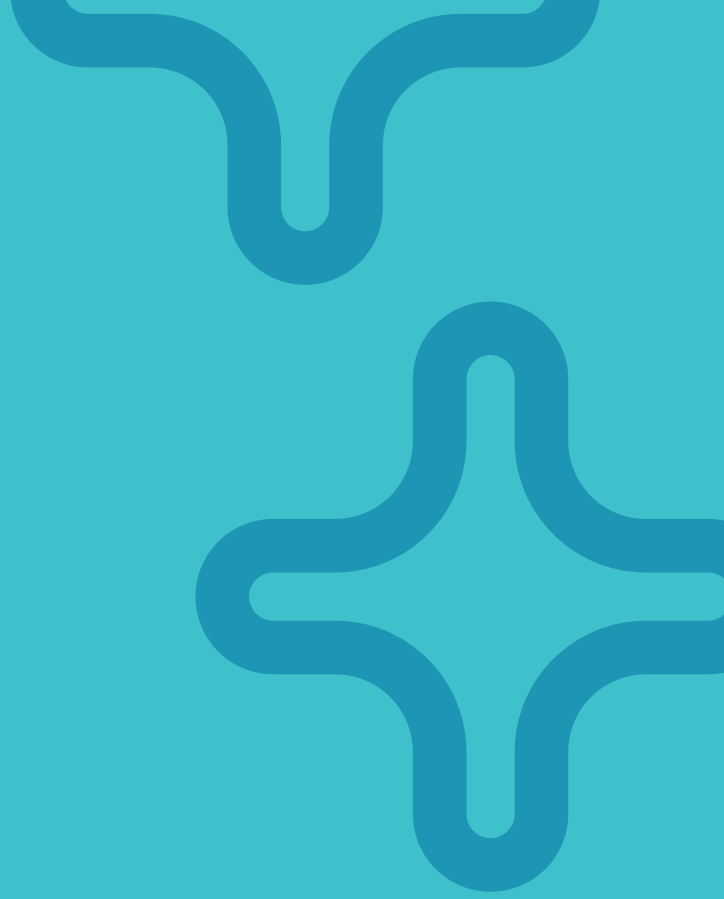
Nikola Lewis
Lydia Kuilenburg
Glynis Turpin
Chris Morgan
Coral Anderson
Sheela Nathan
Cassandra Lardner
Katie-Ann Peart
Tabitha Lewis

During the 2018 AGM a motion was passed to alter the structure of our management committee under our constitution. From January 2019 Girls' Brigade WA will be managed by the State Board comprising the State Commissioner, State Chaplain and five board members.

We are grateful to our outgoing State Council members who have not been nominated for the new Board - Cassandra Lardner and Katie-Ann Peart - for their time, prayers and support while on State Council.

State Council met approximately every two months in 2018 for a total of six ordinary meetings in addition to the AGM.





2018 HIGHLIGHTS

2018 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Congratulations from everyone at Girls' Brigade to those who achieved the following awards in 2018.



QUEEN'S AWARD

Naomi Weickhardt of Riverton and Kwinana companies was presented with the Queen's Award.

The Queen's Award is the highest international award offered by Girls' Brigade. This is presented to girls who have gained their Pioneer Pin, completed 6 months community service, completed two initiative tasks, completed a major project in an area of interest, completed a spiritual challenge, and attended a Regional, State or National Girls' Brigade event.

Service to Church and Company, two interviews, regular meetings with a mentor and an oral presentation are the other components of this two to four year program.

Congratulations Naomi on completing this award!



PIONEER PIN

The Pioneer Pin is the highest national award offered in Girls' Brigade. This award recognises the perseverance of recipients to complete three years of the Pioneer program, two Pioneer Leadership Training courses, a formal interview, and six months of service to Company. Congratulations to all our 2018 recipients!



Left to right: Catherine Osman (Greenwood), Darcy Pearson (Bull Creek), Jemma Roberts (Mundaring), Renee Appleton (Mundaring), Ivy Chamberlain (Riverton), Rachel Lewis (Kalamunda), Shalene Thomas (Riverton). Not pictured, René Naudé (Narrogin).

Some of the comments from the Pioneer Pin interview panel included:

"She has learned leadership skills and would recommend Girls' Brigade to others as a safe place and to learn about God."

"She is actively growing in her faith and approaches life with a practical action."

"It was evident speaking to her that she has a caring heart and a sense of belonging is very important to her."

OTHER AWARDS

Girls' Brigade Western Australia is a registered service provider for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. We also recognise the many hours of volunteer service our members contribute both in and out of company.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD (BRONZE AND SILVER)



Left to right: Tash Bunn (Kalamunda, Silver level), Chelsea Hanham (Riverton, Silver level), Shalene Thomas (Riverton, Bronze level), Jemma Roberts (Mundaring, Bronze level), Ivy Chamberlain (Riverton, Silver level), Abigail Crombie (Mundaring, Bronze level).

VOLUNTARY SERVICE AWARD



Left to right: Jasmine Chamberlain (Riverton, 1,000 hours), Natasha Hill (Riverton, 100 hours), Jemma Roberts (Mundaring, 100 hours), Ivy Chamberlain (Riverton, 1,500 hours)

QUEEN'S AWARD REPORT CORAL ANDERSON

Congratulations to Naomi Weickhardt who was presented with her QA at the 2018 State Award presentation. Naomi had many challenges during her time in the QA program and is to be congratulated on her achievement.

Currently there are another 9 girls at various stages of the program and more already expressing interest in commencing in 2019 - the coordinator's job has grown considerably. The State Council has agreed to form a committee to coordinate the QA in WA and at the end of 2018 were calling for leaders interested in joining the committee.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD LEADER'S REPORT CHRISTINE FARR

A very busy year began with organising and running both Bronze and Silver Level Hikes for the Adventurous Journey Section of the Award. Each set of Hikes was preceded by a compulsory Training day.

Bronze Hike 1 (Practice) – 7th to 8th April
Bronze Hike 2 (Qualifying) – 14th to 15th April
Leaders – Sharon Masters and Bronwyn Blackwell
Girls – Amy Lewis, Darcy Pearson, Kristi Chang and Jemimah Fok (all from Bull Creek Company) plus a friend, Emma Patman.

Silver Hike 1 (Practice) – 14th to 16th April
Silver Hike 2 (Qualifying) – 20th to 22nd April
Leaders – Ka-ren Chew and Cassia Harding-Chew
Girls – Ivy Chamberlain, Chelsea Hanham and Suzanne Jamieson (all from Riverton Company), and Abigail Crombie (Mundaring Company)

The name and website for the State Duke of Ed Award Office changed to Awards WA. I attended Level 2 Training for Award Leaders on 8th March in the Awards WA Office and found it very informative. The Online Record Book (ORB), in which Participants record all their activities, was upgraded to International standards in January. The new ORB is much easier to use than previous versions. One thing we were told at the Training Day was that the Award must be referred to as "The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award" in the first instance with reference thereafter as either "the Award" or "The Duke of Ed" being acceptable. No other abbreviations are allowed. I was pleased to help Ms. Teagan Brown from Awards WA present Certificates at the State Awards Presentation.

It is exciting to note that a number of girls are interested in completing the Gold Level and I have been advising them with their planning, especially for the Adventurous Journey Section of the Award.

Girls' Brigade owns an extensive range of camping and hiking equipment. Roleystone Company, and Canning Vale and Kenwick Companies borrowed camping equipment for their Company Camps.

I was honoured to accept an invitation from the Awards WA Office to attend the International Volunteer Day Garden Party on Wednesday 5th December in the lower gardens of Government House.

I am retiring as Award Leader at the end of 2018, handing over to Michelle Ward to fill this position in 2019. I have enjoyed my role as the Award Leader. It has changed considerably in the fifteen years since I first started organising Hikes for the girls in my Company (1st Mt Helena, later becoming Mundaring Company). The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is such a worthwhile Program, and I have enjoyed assisting the girls achieve their Awards, knowing the great benefits they receive.

2018 EVENTS

Have a look at some of the exciting events we held in 2018

FONOMARAE

In January 2018 one hundred Girls' Brigade participants from all over Australia met at Woodman Point Recreation Camp for our National Fonomarae, held this year in WA.

Our amazing committee and onsite crew were made up of ladies from many parts of Australia and we are indebted to them for their vision, dedication and sheer hard work.

With our theme of "Pure Gold" based on 2 Corinthians 4.7 we sought to share with all participants that our true worth comes from within and that all are considered worthy and valued by God who chose each one of us.

The camp ran with two streams, the first being fifty Pure Gold participants. The second stream was made up of twenty seven participants in a leadership course known as "History Makers". The worship sessions began with all participants sharing together; then the Leadership group left to continue their specific workshops under Sheela Nathan's direction. The Pure Gold group shared a general session led by Tamara and then also separated into seven smaller Connect Groups for discussion with their leaders. Each of the groups was given a chemical name to identify it.

During our week at Woodman Point all participants had the opportunity to share in a variety of challenging fun activities: raft building, surf skis, flying fox, abseiling and archery led by the Woodman Point team.

Other activities offered included drumming, Zumba, cycling, beach hikes and water games. For those more interested in the creative side of things there was jewellery making, string art, sewing, button craft, card making, and silhouette art, scrap booking and vision boards. For those

scientifically minded there was Mad Science and Robogals. Tribal Games were conducted by Sarah and her helpers: Capture the Flag was a challenge and Glow Olympics was fun! Beach activities concluded the Team events. All these activities were led by some of our Crew or by invited local folk who were keen to share their skills and knowledge.

A day at Adventure World (with lunch provided by Friends of Brigade), a city Scavenger Hunt (Thanks, Khaleela!) and a Kings Park BBQ (Thanks to Boys' Brigade and helpers!) were also special events enjoyed by all.

YVONNE WADDELL



There were opportunities to chill out in the evenings in our beautifully created “Chill Zones”, prepared by Marilyn Louwen and Michelle Ward, one for girls and one for Leaders. There folk could decorate a bag, catch up with unfinished craft, do puzzles or just relax and chat.

On Saturday afternoon a Pamper afternoon was enjoyed as girls tried new hair styles and make up, assisted again by local helpers, and then attended a Formal Dinner with Photo Booth. This was followed by Worship on the Beach, with a Baptism of one of the girls.

Over the week we packed a lot into the time! Many new friendships were made and we all look forward to catching up at future GB events!



THANK YOU TO:

Yvonne Waddell (WA) - Committee Chair
 Coral Anderson (WA) – Transport, Electives Co-ordinator and “Keeper of lists”
 Nikola Lewis (WA) – Catering, Adventure World outing, WA State Contingent Leader
 Alison Margetts (TAS) – First Aid, Care Monkey monitor
 Tamara Pilgrim (WA) – “Pure Gold” Chaplain, Connect Group Leaders Guide
 Elyce Joseph (WA) – “Pure Gold” Chaplain, Worship Co-ordinator
 Sheela Nathan (WA) – “History Makers” Co-ordinator and Chaplain
 Natalie Koutsos (NSW) – Leaders’ Chaplain, “History Makers” Group leader
 Marian Ashford (ACT) - National Commissioner, “History Makers” Group Leader
 Katie-Ann Peart (WA) – Registrations, Administration
 Sarah Mihic (WA) – Risk Management, Activities
 Michaela Brouwer (WA) – Finances, Electives
 Briony Barabas (WA) – Dining room Co-ordinator
 Khaleela Meotti (WA) – Fund raising, Activities
 Jo Waites (QLD) – I.T.
 Fiona Waites (QLD), Naomi Weickhardt (WA), Angela McEachan (WA), Cassie Lardner (WA) – Crew

STATE EVENTS

PLT

PLT 2018 marked the launch of the new braids. Big thanks to all of our course leaders for stepping up and learning the new content on a tight schedule, and to the Saturday night team for pulling together such a fun Dr Suess themed night. I am also grateful to Sheela Nathan for insightful and impacting devotions on the story of the Prodigal Son over the weekend.

We also had Nature Play Solutions come in to run a Spare Parts workshop, allowing girls to think creatively using resources to solve problems.

It is very encouraging to see the numbers of girls attending increase, especially the large Foundations and Recreational groups. Girls who had attended Fono were excited to see each other, and overall cohesiveness between as well as within braid groups was great to see.



SENIOR CAMP

This year at Senior Camp the girls started with a movie and bushwalk on the Friday night, followed by a full Saturday of orienteering, high ropes, archery, and taking turns on the giant swing. Saturday night they chatted over board games and finished Sunday with games and team building activities. Special thanks to Glynis Turpin for wonderful devotions on humility and serving others.

We were excited to bless Kalgoorlie company and their 9 attendees with hire of a bus to transport them to and from camp.

It was encouraging to see so many leaders putting their hand up to help, and especially younger leaders keen to help out at camp (8 out of the 18 helpers were under 30).



LEADERSHIP

Leadership is a spiritual development course developed by Girls' Brigade in Queensland. Bringing it to WA had been discussed at State Council meetings for at least 5 years, so in 2017 Nikola Lewis travelled to Queensland to see for herself and was convinced of the value of the course for growing girls spiritually.

In 2018, Marilyn Louwen and Michelle Ward attended Leadership with Stage 1 participants Catherine Osman, Cassie Lardner, Khaleela Meotti and Shalene Thomas. The vision is to start running Leadership in WA from 2020 with the support of the team in Queensland. All attendees were excited to go back in future.



BIKE WEEK

We were grateful to the Department of Transport and Westcycle for funding us to run a second Bike Week event, this time hosted at Shelley Foreshore Reserve Park. This year's activities included a bike ride, giant games free to play on the grass, the opportunity to make your own smoothie on a smoothie bike, and a scavenger hunt. At least three families came that were not connected to Girls' Brigade, but had heard about it through the Bike Week advertising.

It was fantastic to see parents from all over the state chatting after the bike ride while their girls played on the playground or with the giant games. One of the scavenger hunt clues was on the park playground. Another family was holding a birthday party in the same park as us and their kids were playing on the playground too. At the end of our event one of the ladies from the birthday party came up and asked us about the scavenger hunt answer – apparently their kids had been wondering about the answer all afternoon!



NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK

This year we partnered with Boys' Brigade to host a geocaching event in Perth City for Boys' and Girls' Brigade members. Geocaching is a cross between a treasure hunt and orienteering, and participants use their phones to navigate from location to location. Thank you to Andrew Bailey, Boys' Brigade CEO, for coordinating the organisation of the geocaching.

It was especially great to have the opportunity to train older Pioneers on Risk Management so they could then lead a geocaching group around the city independently. It is exciting to see Pioneers who are keen to step up into more challenging leadership opportunities.



NATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT

National Conference 2018 was held at Poatina Village in Launceston, Tasmania from October 4 to 7. Marian Ashford, National Commissioner, opened the conference with a short speech and prayer and worship led by Ros Miller, Ruth Davenport, Mike Ashford, and our new National Chaplain Cheryl. This was followed by dinner where we reflected on the past, and our first session with speaker Hannah Boland. Hannah shared her journey to faith and led us through ice breaker games.

Day two started with the announcement that the new National Constitution had been passed. Hannah had her second session in which she shared some of her life challenges and how they had impacted her relationship with God. This was followed by our first round of workshops. I attended the Resilience workshop run by Ros Miller, where she discussed practical ways we can increase our resilience personally and how we help to create environments that promote resilience, including in companies. After lunch Ruth Davenport led a session on advocacy and challenged us to consider the root causes of our “holy discontent” – an injustice that stirs your heart so much you must do something about it.

For my second workshop option, Matthew Fussell led a session on including girls with disabilities in your company, which encouraged us to focus on the strengths of each girl who comes into our care. Renelle Neale, IVP for the Pacific, updated us on the other countries in our Fellowship. At dinner we were encouraged to dress fancy and celebrate the strengths of Girls’ Brigade in the present.

Saturday morning Cheryl led us in devotions and worship before we departed to our day outings – some to Launceston, some to Cataract Gorge, some to Hollybank Treetop adventures. On return Nikola Lewis led a session on bearing more fruit – how to reach more girls through Girls’ Brigade, and encouraging us to ensure we don’t unintentionally close ourselves to non-Christian girls. At dinner we explored what the future of Girls’ Brigade Australia could look like, and we were each challenged to

make 2 week, 2 month and 1 year goals to make some of those things happen. Our last day started with Hannah sharing what her faith looks like now, and how she now sees Jesus. Cheryl led us in communion and then closed the conference just in time for the first lot of attendees to jump on their bus for flights.

I have heard that this National Conference has looked very different to those in the past. It’s my understanding that this is how National are wanting to conduct these conferences in future, and I can say it was definitely worth going to. Start planning to attend the next one in October 2021!

KATIE-ANN PEART





REPORTS

SOUTHERN REGION REPORT

SHEELA NATHAN

CANNING VALE

Canning Vale Girls' Brigade conducted online training sessions for our young leaders from Canning Vale and Kenwick at the beginning of the year. We are grateful to our church for praying for us throughout the year especially as this was my first year as Captain, and also for the special donation made for the 125-year celebration Bibles. We had various fun activities during the year, including our pioneers making teddy bears. Our most successful event this year was organising and going camping for the first time to Lake Leschenaultia with Kenwick GB team.



KENWICK

My first year as Captain at Kenwick has come with many joys, challenges and frustrations. It has been a steep learning curve and I am still learning! We had a combined camp this year with Canning Vale company and according to the girls it was a complete success. I know the girls at Kenwick really enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to the next one! It has been great getting to know the girls, parents and leaders this year. We have some great girls especially in the senior group. During the camp these girls were paired with some of younger members and they did a sterling job looking after and caring for them over the weekend. We are blessed at Kenwick to have 3 sets of twins!!

GOSNELLS

Gosnells Girls' Brigade embraced Girls' Brigade's 125th Birthday Year with new members and new learning opportunities. Each member received a GB Bible to remember this milestone. With Gosnells Baptist Church undergoing major renovations we have been creative on how we use the available space and moving our supplies to and fro each week. We positively embraced this situation as a learning opportunity and have all managed well. We have had a lady join us as a past GB leader to take the Junior group. She is completing her training. We sent our Seniors and Pioneers/Young Leaders to the State camps which were positive growing experiences. It is good to see these girls grasping the opportunity to plan and run events with the Company after completing one of the newly written Leadership courses.



Southern Region members enjoyed their time of fellowship over meals, State and Southern Region AGM. It was wonderful to celebrate the achievements of the girls at the State Awards.

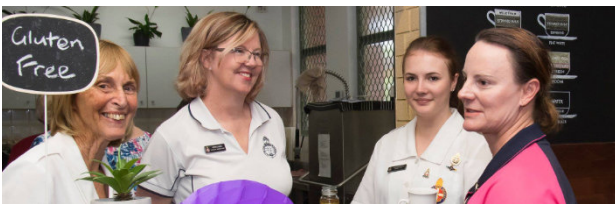


EASTERN REGION REPORT

YVONNE WADDELL

MUNDARING

This year saw Mundaring Company experience “a year of steep learning curves, challenges, of teamwork, of stepping out of our comfort zone, discovering our strengths and our weaknesses and overall a year of growth.” After 23 years of leadership and service in the company, Christine Farr and Corinna Farr resigned at the end of 2017. So 2018 began with Bronwyn Blackwell in an Acting Captain capacity. With the commitment of 10 dedicated leaders and the support of the Mundaring Church of Christ the company has had a very busy and successful year. Numbers grew to 62. During the year the company participated in Fonomarae in WA, PLT, 125 year GB celebration, Operation Reach out Caribbean, Senior Camp, Mundaring ANZAC Day March and ceremony, Governors Prayer Breakfast, hikes for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, school ANZAC day ceremonies (private and public), fundraising sausage sizzle, Parkerville Easter Fair, special father and mother night and State GB Awards. To symbolise the fruitful partnership with the church the company gave two fruit trees to the church as part of the GB 125 year's celebration. The Pioneers also gave artwork to the church, as a thank you for their continual support. In November Bronwyn Blackwell was formally commissioned as Captain.



KALAMUNDA

With a steady and able leadership team Kalamunda Company has continued to grow with girls enjoying a programme with great variety and lots of interactive opportunities. Through the year the company has enjoyed church and community events. During the year the Company participated in in Fonomarae in WA, PLT, 125 year GB celebration, Operation Reach out Asia, Senior Camp, State Conference, Grandparents' night, Park Picnic, Co sleepover and Church Parade and State GB Awards. Natasha Bunn received her Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award.

KALGOORLIE

As always this company has continued to offer girls in Kalgoorlie the opportunity to hear the Gospel in a safe and friendly environment. The committed and very flexible leadership team often share multiple roles as they adapt to current needs. With numbers in the 40s they struggle with the sometimes transient population which affects both leaders and girls as families come and go. It has been encouraging to see girls coming through to Pioneers again attending and enjoying Leadership training, Senior Camp and Fonomarae in WA. The 125 GB birthday celebrations were an opportunity to share with church and community, as were Mothers and Fathers' Day activities when gifts were handed out in Church.

ROLEYSTONE

This Company has had a change of church base and is now sharing ministry with the Roleystone Community Church. The leadership team remains constant and numbers have increased slightly. The annual Mother and Daughter Company camp was held in Busselton with canoeing and Operation Reachout Asia activities. The company enjoyed its 30th birthday and combined celebrations with GB 125th Birthday celebrations. The opportunity to showcase the girls and their community service was once again provided at the Kelmscott Show.

All companies participated in the State Training Day in January and all were visited by either Yvonne or Glynis. The region supported Fonomarae in WA with girls attending and leaders assisting at various activities. We are very grateful to Glynis, our chaplain, who as well as leading us spiritually at meetings has represented us at State Council and has actively supported us through all our activities and events with regular prayer and practical assistance.

We thank God for all the blessing of this year as we celebrate 125 years of GB and look to the future.

NORTHERN REGION REPORT

CORAL ANDERSON

2018, the year to celebrate the abundant goodness of God and together we have celebrated 125 years of mission through Girls' Brigade. We have shared stories of how we have seen God at work in the lives of girls and leaders, we have looked back over the years and see a firm foundation on which to move forward. It is now time to look forward and ask God to move us on in His mission.

During the year we have divided the role of the Regional Coordinator into three areas as we prepare for the implementation of the new GB WA Constitution. I have worked as a member of the WA State Council to continue to ensure GBWA has met its legal and financial responsibilities. Briony Barabas continued as Deputy with responsibility for the Regional meetings and Greta Mewhor as Company Coordinator responsible for Company visits. These two wonderful ladies were also available to help Companies by coming in and running the evening programme if there were leaders away or just to give the leaders a night off, their programme to celebrate 125 years was well received by the companies that used it. Briony and Greta will continue in these roles for a further six months as GBWA develop a Job description for the role of Regional Coordinator under the new Constitution.

Michaela, Katie-Ann and Sarah planned and ran our amazing sleepover '#likeagirl' when girls and leaders shared a funfilled Saturday afternoon and evening with many then sleeping over and sharing with the Church family at Woodvale Baptist Church at their morning service.

The girls were given a choice of electives for the first half of the afternoon including cooking, craft, dancing and STEM activities. Later on the Cadets and Juniors were led by Nature Play in a cubby building activity in which they were encouraged to get creative outdoors and work together. The Seniors and Pioneers had a great time participating in a Nerf gun war, enjoying the chance to get active and spend time together. The girls and leaders were encouraged through devotions given by Kae Thornhill (Woodvale Chaplain) about how to live God's truths on who we are as girls and God's masterpiece.

The following day the girls attending the morning service at Woodvale Baptist Church. We shared a brief history of 125 years of the mission of GB. Six girls from Northern Region Companies shared the impact of GB their lives. Some of these were 'Because of GB I am... Strong, Independent, Confident, Loved.'

Next year we will continue to grow our Leaders and girls in the companies we have and in the new ones God sends. It is my prayer that as we look to Him for direction that our Saviour will continue to fill us with a passion to see girls come to know Jesus as their Saviour, that our hearts will be in tune with His.



WESTERN REGION REPORT

NIKOLA LEWIS

I would like to praise God, the Captains and all the leaders for their dedication to continue on spreading God's love to all the girls, and encouraging them to do likewise, despite the challenges during the year as there wasn't a Regional Co-ordinator. After many years of faithful service Jeanette Knight resigned from Girls' Brigade, we pray that she is truly blessed as she continues on her next adventures. Unfortunately North Lake also closed, but it was great that some of the girls in the company were willing to move to nearby companies.

All the companies were thrilled to be able to give out GB 125 years Commemorative Bibles (CEV) to all of our girls and any leaders. The girls have loved using them both at GB each week and at home. This has fitted particularly well with Riverton's Wildly Important Goal for 2018- To Know God/Jesus and To Make Him Known, with our many small goals being reached along the way for our leaders and girls.



Some highlights from the different companies include:

Riverton

1. It was fantastic to hear what half of our girls ranging from Yr 2 to Yr 11 from different cultural backgrounds, expressed in a video clip 'Why I love GB' –hearing about God, learning life and leadership skills, making friends that they wouldn't normally meet, it is a positive environment, cook and eat food!

2. To see one of our older girls (Pioneer) become switched on for God, getting involved in the children's ministry here at Riverton. This year she has helped younger Pioneer girls to adjust to learning to be a leader. She expressed a desire to stretch herself and attended a special advanced Leadership Camp in Queensland.

Bullcreek

The year started well when one of their girls asked to be baptised, what an honour to be part of her journey. It was great to see the overall numbers at Bull Creek increase – the second largest growth in Australia.

Narrogin

It was wonderful to have Rene Naude receive her Pioneer Pin, and also see the company connect with people in the community. The Mens Shed have helped cut out doll furniture for the girls to build and "interior decorate" dolls houses.



STATE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

TABITHA LEWIS

STAFFING

Katie-Ann Peart is our outstanding State Events Coordinator. Her role involves planning events, organising promotional material and completing the paper work for these events, including risk assessments. Katie-Ann has helped organise numerous events which keep her very busy and she continues to generate fun-filled events that help in the transformation of our GB girls and promote us in the community. Katie-Ann is also a great support in the office, offering her assistance where she can.

Shirley Brindley continues as our Promotions and Development Officer. 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 continued work in our organisation.

Michelle Wards joined us towards the end of the year to fill the position of Training Officer working 1 day a week. Michelle grew up in Girls' Brigade starting as a Cadet and is now a leader at Gosnells Girls' Brigade. With many of the training programmes

changing and the changeover to using the Childsafe and Caremonkey systems, we thought it would be a great investment for our leaders to employ a training officer to help train everyone in these areas. There is a lot to learn and we are very excited about the plans Michelle has to help our leaders reach their full potential.

Tabitha Lewis continues to fill in for the role of State Administrator. Her primary role is to provide support to the Executive, liaise with government and provides general book-keeping, administration and maintenance.

STATE SUMMARY - STATISTICS AS AT SEPTEMBER 2018 (BELOW)

Armadale continues to be in recess.

Due to shortage of leaders and participants, North Lake, which has been going since 1990, regrettably disbanded at the beginning of the year. Fortunately, some of the girls could relocate to neighbouring companies. Immense thanks go to Jeanette Knight who has been the faithful Captain for many years and will be warmly remembered by many girls.

Even with the closure of one company there was a small increase in the number of girls, and we look forward to what the future will bring.

REGION	NO. OF COMPANIES	PIONEERS/ YNG LDRS	SENIORS	JUNIORS	CADETS	TOTAL GIRLS	LEADERS	ASSISTANT LEADERS	CHAPLAINS	TOTAL
WESTERN	4	17	32	44	41	134	19	1	5	159
SOUTHERN	3	11	22	34	12	79	6	1	3	96
NORTHERN	5	13	44	63	35	155	21	8	3	187
EASTERN	4	15	35	50	32	132	14	9	4	159
TOTAL SEP 2018	16	56	133	191	120	500	60	26	15	601
SEP 2017	17	58	108	217	113	496	69	21	18	604
SEP 2016	17	58	109	212	126	505	62	20	16	603

STATE EVENTS COORDINATOR REPORT

KATIE-ANN PEART

2018 was another fun and busy year of events. Details of each event are provided elsewhere in this report, and so won't be repeated here. Some general event trends you can expect moving into 2019 are:

- A greater focus on leaders connecting with each other across and within companies.

- An effort to spread events over the entire year.

- Events targeted to the community, not just our girls – for example, in 2019 we are running another Bike Week event. While our girls will certainly be encouraged to attend, when applying for the grant we specifically included money for advertising. This event is about giving back to the community (and if we get some girls enrolling in companies as a bonus...).

- Partnering with Boys Brigade. Consistent feedback over the past two years from the girls has revealed a demand for outdoorsy and active activities, and it's probably not a coincidence that our most outdoorsy event (Senior Camp) has run to capacity four years in a row. This is something the Boys have expertise in, so we are leveraging the connection.

I am extremely grateful to everyone who has stepped up to help with the various events. These events do not happen without volunteers, so thank you to all who have been so generous with their time over this past year.

FRIENDS OF BRIGADE REPORT

RUTH EBELL

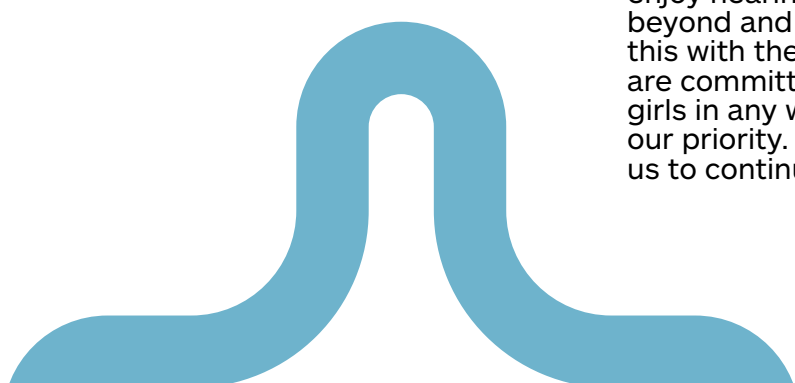
We currently have 35 members. In January we prepared sandwiches for 100 girls and leaders attending Adventure World during Fonomarae. They were delivered along with boxes of fruit. In March and August members met at the State Office for prayer and coffee and were kept up to date with Girls' Brigade affairs. At the August meeting Christmas Craft was prepared for four Companies - 110 articles were delivered and the Companies who received them were glad of the assistance.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on the 16th June at the home of Ian and Coral Anderson. We met for morning tea which was in the form of a High Tea and enjoyed by all. We held our business meeting and Lucy Twining spoke to us about her time in China. After the meeting we enjoyed lunch in the beautiful garden setting of the Anderson's home.

Val Underhill stepped down from the task of sending Birthday cards which she had done for many years and Robyn Higgins took over the task. Joyce Barnsley has continued as our Treasurer and Graham Underhill as our Auditor. The cost of morning tea and lunch was covered by our funds. We were able to forward \$300 toward the national cost of the Bibles being presented to every girl and leader during our 125th year. Many of the ladies also ordered the special Bibles and were glad to receive them. During the Annual meeting, Katie-Ann Peart brought us up to date with the events for the year and Coral Anderson spoke of National happenings.

In November we prepared and served afternoon tea at the State Awards Event but found it rather difficult with the occasion being held at a venue not familiar to any of the ladies. Four issues of The Friendly Messenger were emailed during the year and posted to ladies who do not have email. On December 1st we ended the year with Breakfast together at Miss Mauds in the City. Unfortunately I was not able to be present but 15 ladies and some partners attended.

I am blessed as a Life Member to be able to attend some State Events which enables me to enjoy hearing what is happening in our State and beyond and gives me the opportunity of sharing this with the members of Friends. As a group we are committed to supporting our Leaders and girls in any way we are able always making prayer our priority. We thank you for the opportunity for us to continue serving Girls' Brigade in this way.



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER REPORT

SHIRLEY BRINDLEY

STATE TRAINING COORDINATOR REPORT

MICHELLE WARD

Company Support

- Six ebulletins were sent to church partners throughout the year. This communication gives church leaders a state view of Girls' Brigade.
- GB companies received a promotional personalized company flier, A4 tear off poster and trifold company flyer.
- GB schools were emailed with individual company details in Term 1 and in Term 3.
- GB group details sent to relevant community newspapers in February
- State event photographs used for publicity – Facebook, leaflets and website.
- Development initiated on church promotion information.

Publicity

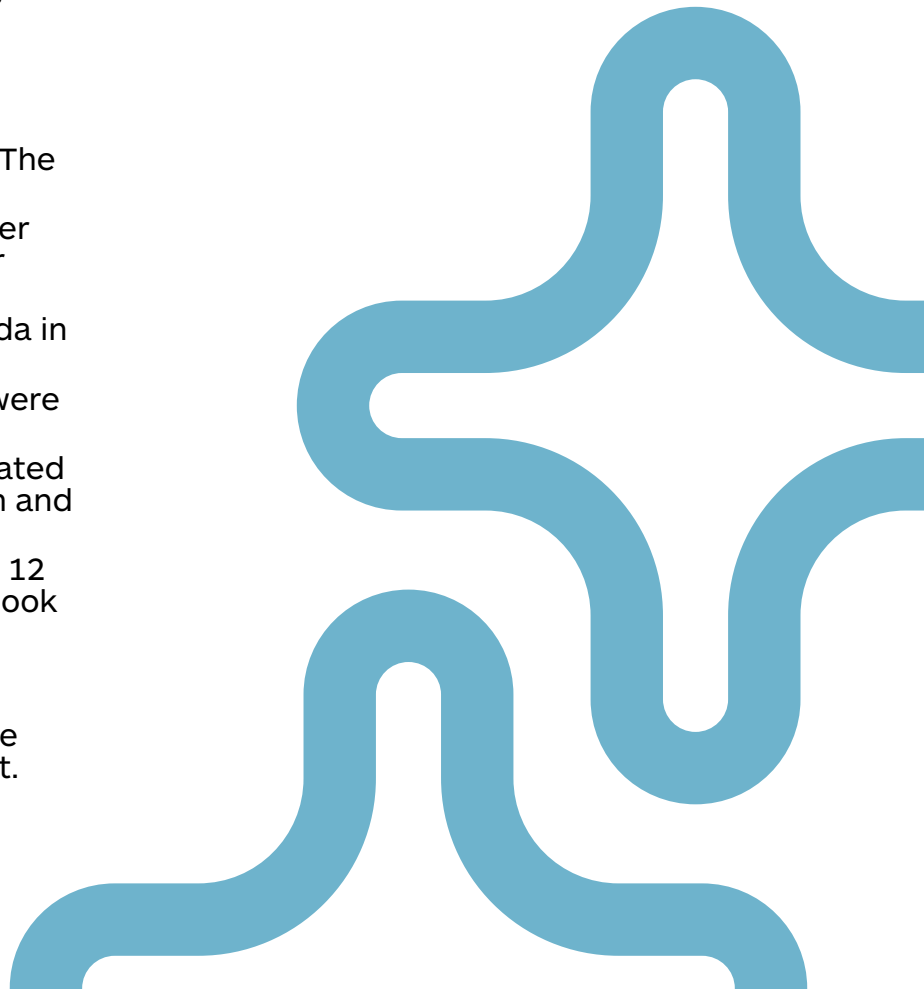
- Celebrating 125 years of GB was promoted on the GB website and facebook page, with 12 individual articles/stories promoted.
- An article was placed in Revive (Uniting Church magazine) and in The Advocate.
- Girls' Brigade girls read the prayer message at the Governor's Prayer Breakfast in August.
- News articles on Fono, Kalamunda in local paper.
- Little Aussie, South companies were advertised in March 2018 edition.
- The website - was regularly updated with news and events, linked from and to Facebook.
- Facebook had 532 page likes (at 12 December). Creation of unit facebook groups.

Grants

Belmont Grant for equipment, Bike Week grant and Youth Week grant.

I started the role of Training Coordinator in June of 2018. In the 6 months since I have been very busy learning the new training that National rolled out earlier this year. I have been settling in and defining my role. I have attended Duke of Edinburgh's training and had a handover session with Christine. I am excited to see how we can fit this award in to the already amazing and diverse work we do in Brigade.

In September I was blessed to go to Leadership in Queensland. I was encouraged and challenged to see how we might be able to offer our girls this life changing course in WA. I look forward to exploring this more and partnering with our GB sisters across the desert.





**GIRLS'
BRIGADE**
Western Australia