



leaders' latest



Networking Leaders and Officers from Boys' Brigade & ICONZ in Canterbury

For: **This Month's thought** (see page 4)

Isaiah 9:6-7

- 6) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- 7) Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Seasons Greetings



Greetings All

*It is the season to wish
Merry Christmas to one and all.
For now, it's time for holiday fun
With cherished family and friends.
But as we come to the end of the year
It's the perfect opportunity for us to say
Thank you for your support throughout the past year
And we look forward to a continuing prosperity
For us all in the New Year*

Amidst the giving of gifts, the excitement of children and cooking of traditional dinners, it is easy to miss "[the reason for the season](#)" the birth of God's son Jesus Christ. Let us remember that a Christmas heart is a giving heart, a wide-open heart that thinks of others first. The birth of baby Jesus as the most significant event in all history, because it has meant the pouring into a sick world the healing medicine of love which has transformed all manner of hearts for two thousand years.

A Christmas Prayer

Loving Father, help us to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

Amen

Last Month's Happenings

November 08th Battalion Council Meeting – 1st CH-CH

Upcoming Events

February 19th 2017 Kick-of-Event (Fun Day - Sports/Activities/)

February 21st Battalion Council Meeting – 14th CH-CH

March 03rd-05th CATAAC at "Waipara Adventure Centre"

April 07th-09th Young Leaders Training

"2017 Battalion Management Team"

Battalion President: David Morgan 03 975 5198 21 0468195

Deputy President: Chris Mardon 027 7597707

Battalion Secretary: (offer's required)

Battalion Treasurer: Mrs Julie Mardon 03 395 8126

Area Representatives:

Alister Morris 03 347 8722, David Blackler 021 1824677, Frank Morgan 03 347 9228.

1st Waimate Boy's Brigade Company.

Over this term, we have been talking about road safety, then we did cycle maintenance with the intentions of taking the boys on a cycling adventure camp and this happened on Saturday 26th November. 15 boys left for Gunn's Bush including the 3rd Timaru Boys. Their ages were 7yrs - 13yrs and they climbed for 13.5km on their bikes and it took 3 hours. Some fell off, they went through fords with water, they road on tarmac and shingle roads that went up and down some walked but many tried to ride up the hills, but not one gave up. One of the little fellas about 7yrs was saying "I think I can, I know I can" every time he was asked how are you going? He made it they all did. Paul Roberts shared about the Little Red Engine with the boys how he kept saying to himself "I think I can, I know I can" at the beginning of the ride, encouraging them to keep on trying, just as an athlete pushes himself and the same with Paul in the Bible who considered all things lost but centre himself upon God and on the race before him.

Then it was lunch time and some free time back on their bikes playing. After our briefing about what was going to happen for the rest of the day, the boys were divided into groups and sent out into the Gun's Bush where they made 3 bivwack's. One out of their visibility vests, another like Hilton hotel and the last with what was around them. Time for afternoon tea and getting ready for the concert that night. But before this could happen it was time to cook their own tea on gas cookers outside. Mrs Cousins gave instructions as how to use these cookers and how to be safe around them. Out came the pots and food, most of them had sausages and bake beans or spaghetti and sausages, there were eggs to fry and some had brought tinned chocolate rice pudding but the most interesting was where 2 boys who cooked macaroni, made a home tomatoe sauce once cooked threw in a tin of tuna, while everyone else was finishing they were starting to eat. Now it was time for the concert we had singing, rap, break dancing and last of all Fiona Blissett had organized a court proceeding with the boys acting as jury. Well that went down well with a lot of raucous noise of everyone either being guilty or not guilty, the boys had a lot of fun then it was time for supper and bed. Next morning time to pack up have breakfast and our chaplain Phil Bethany shared with the boys and from what I gather he has a bugle which was NOT appreciated by those who didn't go to sleep early the night before. Then it was time to head home as it was downhill it only took 1 1/2 hours to arrive in Waimate. We stopped to let a little 5yr old to ride with Paul Roberts back to the hall. Everyone had a fantastic time.

Share Your Story.

We would like the opportunity to tell your story in "Leaders Latest".

Please tell us about events in your Company/Unit.

Share your story and it just might serve as an inspiration for one of our other Companies/Units.

Send your story with some photo's to "Leaders Latest" at (office@bbcanterbury.org.nz)

"This Month's thought"

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given: and the government shall be on his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful.

GOD CAME TO US IN THAT CHILD

His parents were instructed to call Him "Immanuel" — "God with us." Such a fact is big with meaning; pregnant with vital, jubilant truth. Why did God come to us thus in a babe? He must have had some wise and loving purpose that He wished to secure thereby. What For ages men had been taught to fear God, their thoughts of Him filled them with dismay; hence the gods of the heathen nations. The large body of the Jewish nation was not much in advance of the heathen. This dread of God was universal. To correct all such ideas, and remove all such feelings from the minds and hearts of men forever, God came to us as a child. Are you afraid of a babe?

GOD CAN COME TO US IN THE SMALLEST THINGS.

We generally look for God in the great, vast, mighty, terrible. We expect something to strike the eye, etc. Will you remember that God came to us in that quiet, loving, unpretending babe, that lay in that, manger and nestled in His mother's bosom? And so, God comes to us in the little, simple, humble, noiseless, common things of life, if we only look for Him. Especially He comes to us in our children. They bring love with them, and "love is of God," etc. We might in a far higher sense than we think for call every child "Immanuel." In our child, God comes to us, God is with us. Do we believe this? If so, should we not oftener look for and educate the God in them? We should do far better with them if from the beginning, we sought to bring out, nourish, educate, develop the good, the God that is in them, instead of making it our chief concern to correct the wrong, to restrain the evil.

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Sure & Stedfast
Development Trust

The Boys' Brigade & ICONZ Object:

The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self Respect and all that tends towards true Christian Manliness.