

May-June 2010

FAREWELL



To A Great Man

A EULOGY TO THE LATE S P CHUA

*Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.
(Ps 116:15)*

It is my great privilege to stand before you this evening to pay tribute to the late S P Chua. For those of us who know him, his passing seems like the passing of an era.

S P's contribution to The Boys' Brigade is very immense. I will not be telling you anything new if I were to recount his years as Captain of the 1st Singapore Company and his long tenure as president of the Singapore Battalion from 1958 to 1964. Other more senior BB old boys will be able to disclose more about Mr Chua in these two roles than I could.

I would, however, like to mention some lesser-known facts that reveal the signal role that Mr Chua had played in the development of the BB internationally and regionally.

The first is Mr Chua's involvement in the formation of the World Conference of The Boys' Brigade. In 1962, Mr Chua travelled to Leeds, England to participate in what is called an 'Overseas Conference of BB representatives' to discuss the future of the BB movement.

A year later, Mr Chua was on the road again--this time to Dundee, Scotland to attend a follow-up meeting. This second meeting was significant in that the attendees resolved 'to maintain the unity, purpose and specific character of The Boys' Brigade everywhere.' A resolution was also passed to organise The Boys' Brigade into an international organisation. Up to that time, the BB was perceived as a British thing, and all overseas BB companies were still controlled from London. Today, of course, the story is very different. But our present structure of BB Asia comprising autonomous BB countries, owes its origin to this very source... and to the foresight of S P Chua.

Another feather in Mr Chua's cap was added when he became the first president of BB Malaysia, a Malaysia that incorporated Singapore as its Southern District. That was in 1964. As president, he travelled extensively to visit companies to give encouragement. In one of the trips by car, I am told, he and his travelling companion, Mr Khoo Hin Hiong then Secretary of the Malaysian BB Council, got into some misunderstanding with some local shop-keepers and had to flee for their lives!



For distinguished service to BB Malaysia, Mr Chua was awarded the Gold Long Service Medal in Kuching in May 1991. In his acceptance speech (I was there at the ceremony) Mr Chua, who was then 77, told the audience to renew their commitment to the BB, adding that "there is no retirement in BB service."

We move now from Mr Chua's contribution to the man himself. What manner of man

was he? How is it that he had come to leave such a mark on all of us?

I can say a lot here as I was fortunate to be close to S P for about thirty years. But I shall limit myself to a single characterisation of him. Many years ago, King George VI praised the BB for providing a programme for young people that was based upon the "twin pillars of religion and discipline." S P was to me one of the great people who had truly internalised these pillars. He had a strong faith in God and was a man of prayer: I shall always be grateful for his daily prayers for me. His spirituality had depth and maturity for it was matched by a life of strict discipline.



Another little-known fact will surprise many of us. When he was already in his 70s, S P enrolled in a Bible college in Australia to study theology by extension. Sadly, owing to failing eyesight, the study programme had to be abandoned. That's how seriously he took his faith!

All of his life S P had lived for the BB. Many thousands of Boys have passed through the ranks of the BB. Many of us owe everything to the BB and had benefited from being members of this great organisation. But the BB can only work because it had men like S P Chua who offered themselves wholly to make it work. So allow me to elevate S P to the same league as the Founder of the BB, Sir William A Smith, of whom it was said he had "opened the door to the vision of the Kingdom of God to a million Boys."



*Delivered by
LIM K THAM
General Secretary
of BB Asia
on Wednesday
28 April 2010*

Bringing you BB News **across** ASIA



THE BOYS' BRIGADE
ASIA

May-June 2010



LAU KA FAI
*shares with us
that...*



ERIC LIM
Reports

Whilst in Brunei Mr Tay also conducted a NCO Leadership course. We enjoyed his fellowship and time spent with us and would like to thank BB Asia for making it possible for him to visit us.

Editor's Note: **ERIC** holds the rank of Sergeant in his BB Company.

BB Hong Kong Offers

Anchor Lambs

Now children aged 3-5 years in Hong Kong can join the BB. They are known as ANCHOR LAMBS. This latest section was introduced in September 2009. And since then it has been established in eight companies making up a total of about 266 members.



Their easy to wear uniform is made up of light blue vest with a cap

Training & Award Scheme includes badges such as Exploration, Service & Sociable, Discipline, Spiritual, Outstanding Anchor Lamb, Bronze Service & Service Year.

For more information, please visit their website at www.bbhk.org.hk.

Editor's Note: **KA FAI** is works for BB Hong Kong as the Head of Uniformed Groups.

BB Brunei's Enrolment Service

Our annual enrolment service was held on Sunday, 03 May 2010, at the largest Anglican Church in Bandar Seri Begawan. The Boys were excited because it was the first time for many. They all turned up in their smart uniform and took their oath with unison pride to be loyal to the BB and the Church.



Mr Lawrence Tay, BB Asia Executive Secretary, was present to witness the occasion. He inspected the BB contingent on arrival. At the service he thanked the Church for their continuous support of The BB outreach ministry to young people. He also spoke of the importance of young people to the future of the Church and to the local community.



**FRANCIS
CHIONG**
Reports

BOTC for Philippines



The 1st Basic Officers Training Course for The Philippines was conducted on 9-10 April 2010 in Grace Christian College, Quezon City, Manila. 29 persons representing 5 churches and Christian schools attended the two days training. At least four (4) new companies would be formed in July 2010.



Editor's Note: **FRANCIS** is the Executive Secretary of BB Asia.

Bringing you BB News

across ASIA



THE BOYS' BRIGADE
ASIA

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ANG HOE YONG

shares with us that...

Starting BB in Cambodia

Under the covering of Bedok Methodist Church, Mr. Chow Fang Soong and Mr. Steven Lee from the 97th Company of BB Singapore started the BB work in a Methodist School in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in 2009. Initially, the Officers flew up to Cambodia to feel the ground and completed the first cut BB Knowledge inculcation in November headed by the Assistant Chaplain of 97th and 40th, Mr. Eric Cheang.



Subsequently, the Officers flew up on a quarterly basis to help manage the monthly program in the school. They also conducted LDC 1 training to the Cambodian Senior NCOs / Squad Leaders. Five Cambodian Officers attended a COC/BOTC in Singapore conducted by Mr. Ang Hoe Yong, Captain of the 97th



Currently the only company in Cambodia has a strength of 80 boys.

Editor's Note: **HOE YONG** is the Captain of 97th Singapore Company



PRISCILLA LEE

Tells us of her visit.

A Visit to 1st SibU Company of BB Malaysia

If BB Hong Kong did not organize their 50th Anniversary International Camp I would not have known that SibU existed in Malaysia. Let alone the idea of visiting it one day! Anyway, life is always full of surprises.

When the 1st SibU members first invited me to visit them, I really thought that they were just being polite. However after realising their seriousness, I considered it deeply, discussed it with my friends, bought our air tickets via the internet and started counting the days to our visit.

Upon our arrival at the SibU Airport, I surprised and touched to be received by so many 1st SibU members. Their warm welcome was much stronger than the hot weather in SibU!!

While in SibU, I was able to attend 1st SibU's parade. There I was treated to a band and footdrill performance which impressed me very much. Being a drummer with the BBHK Band, I was invited to play the drums during their practice. I shared with them some information of BB in HK and taught them some BB songs in Cantonese which they seem to enjoy very much.



Our host also arranged for us to visit the city of Kuching during which we learnt more about Malaysia being a multi-racial country. Despite the different races, culture and languages, it is really amazing that the people can still communicate with each other. We tried many new dishes like Foo Chow style snacks, Teh Terik, Bah Kut Teh, Roti Prata. They all tasted great and I really missed the food a lot after returning home. There were some similar restaurants in Hong Kong but the taste cannot be compared with Malaysian ones.



I missed the Malaysian hospitality very much because they made sure that there was never a dull moment for us. To Captain Tin, his family and members of 1st SibU Company thanks from the bottom of our hearts. May God be with you all always!!

Editor's Note: **PRISCILLA** is a Warrant Officer with 40th Hong Kong Company.



**PRAYER
 POINTS**

**Pray for BB Asia
 that God will bless**

- the office-bearers 2009-2010 with wisdom as they stir the entire ministry to a greater height.
- the success of their 3-year development plan of the BB Asia.
- the coming 6th General Council meeting to be held on 27 November 2010 in Singapore.
- continue to unite and strengthen the bond of the Member Countries.
- our ministry with generous financial contribution to support work that being done.
- their endeavors to raise funds to support the ministry for the next three years.
- the work of the Secretariat in fulfilling its responsibilities.
- for the travels of the staff with protection, good health and fruitful effort.
- the preparation of the Full Time Workers Conference which will be held on 18-22 August 2010.

**Pray for our BB Asia
 Member Countries.**

Brunei

- **PRAY** for sustenance and continuing support from their church because of the political structure, they are only allowed to form one company.
- **PRAY** for more adult leadership.

Singapore

- **PRAY** that God will continue to bless the BB work and that He

will grant them strength as they face many challenges ahead.

- **PRAY** for their 80th Anniversary celebration and its preparations that all their plans will run smoothly.

Hong Kong

- **PRAY** for their target to reach 10,000 BB members .

Indonesia

- **PRAY** for the success of the registration of BB Indonesia as an organisation which is now in the final stages.
- **THANK GOD** that they have managed to appoint two new staff for their national headquarters.
- **PRAY** for their fund-raising dinner on 6 November 2011 in Medan. That they will meet their target.

Macau

- **PRAY** that God will continue to bless the BB work and for their new leadership.

Malaysia

- **PRAY** that God will continue to bless the BB work carried out by the national & district executives and the local companies. That there will be cooperation and team spirit.
- **THANK GOD** for the smooth running of their 19th National Pesta in Penang. About 1700 campers from local and abroad participated.

Philippines (not a member country yet.)

- **PRAY** for the protem committee led by Mr Paul Tiu that God will reveal His plans for them and direct them accordingly.
- **PRAY** for their Introductory Seminar and promotion in Manila and Bulacan this July.
- **PRAY** for the four companies that will officially form this July in Manila and Bagiuo as they are totally new to the BB ministry.

Thailand

- **PRAY** for the Officers who have come forward to lead in the various committees that through them the BB programme will be more effective and meaningful.
- **PRAY** also for their plans to raise funds to be more self-sufficient and also for their own building.
- **PRAY** that God will continue to grant the National Executive wisdom and guidance as they take steps to develop the ministry and to improve relationships.
- **PRAY** for every company that they will produce capable leaders with the right heart and spirit to lead the company. Also that they will continue to work well with other companies and with the national executive.
- **PRAY** for Tum and May, as they serve as full-time staff.

Cambodia (not a member country yet.)

- **PRAY** for our full-time team at the BB Learning Centre in Siem Reap.
- **PRAY** for the BB company started in the Methodist School in Phnom Penh. The group is already meeting but lack experienced leaders. 97th Singapore has volunteered to assist them.



*...pray for each other...
 (James 5:16)*

*Prayer should
 become as natural as
 breathing.*



May-June 2010

**Do Your Best and
 Leave the Rest**

*"He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it."
 1 Thessalonians 5:24*

Have you at sometime found yourself under extreme pressure? Have there been episodes in your life when you were so burdened by tasks and responsibilities that there are simply no breathing space to prepare for your service to God?

That was the experience of a pastor by the name of A J Gossip. During one hectic week, he didn't have his customary amount of time to prepare his sermon. As he walked to his pulpit that Sunday morning, he felt guilty about the scanty sermon notes in his hand. It seemed that the Lord was asking him, "is this the best you could do for Me this week?" And Gossip honestly replied, "Yes, Lord, it is my best," He told a friend later that Jesus took that ill-prepared piece of work and His hands "it became a trumpet" to his congregation.

The apostle Paul encouraged the Thessalonians to give their all to God (1 Thess 5:14-22). They were to exhort, warn, comfort, rejoice, pray, and express their gratitude to God-among other things. We too should always do our best in our Christian life and service. But when pressure periods come and we just don't have the time we feel we need, we should do the best we can and then prayerfully trust God's faithfulness(v24).

*Give of your best to the Master,
 Give Him first place in your heart;
 Give Him first place in your service,
 Consecrate every part.*

**Be faithful – and leave
 the results to God.**

(Taken from Our Daily Bread, September 2008.)

INTERNATIONAL CAMPS

coming your way

2010
BB SINGAPORE – 3-7 December
 80th Anniversary Camp Temasek V

2011
BB AUSTRALIA - 6-15 January
 17th Pan Australian Camp
 "Catch The Spirit" - Tasmania
 For more details visit
<http://boys.brigadeaustralia.org>.

3rd BB Asia Academy
 It is proposed that the academy to be held end December 2011. This academy is opened to all BB members and officers 18 years and above.

BB INDONESIA
Camp Bersama
 This camp is held in celebration of BBI's 25th Anniversary in 2011.
 Date: **June 2011**
 Venue: **Medan, Sumatra**
 ("Bersama" means *together*.)

NOTICE

We regret to announce that Mr Kusno of BB Indonesia has resigned as Brigade President with immediate effect. The BBI Executive Committee has appointed Ms Resien as Acting President until their Extraordinary Meeting has been called.

We would like take this opportunity to thank Mr Kusno for his faithful service and wish him God's blessings in his future undertakings.

ATTENTION, PLEASE!

BB ASIA
Full Time Workers Conference
2010

Venue
 Kuala Lumpur & Fraser's Hill, Malaysia

Date
 18-22 August (Wednesday-Sunday)

(Only opened to all full-time staff of BB Asia Member Countries.)

BB INDONESIA
Fund Raising Dinner

Venue
 Duck King Restaurant, Medan, Indonesia

Date
 6 November 2010 (Saturday)

Objectives
 To raise funds for their Full-time Staff & Headquarters and Extension Work.

Entry by invitation only.
 Contributions are always welcomed.

BB ASIA
6th GENERAL Council Meeting

Venue
 BBS Campus, Singapore

Date
 27 November 2010 (Saturday)

(Only opened to selected delegates of BB Asia Member Countries.)

For more information of the above, kindly email to BB Asia Secretariat at bb.secretariat@bbasia.org.

Bringing you BB News

ACROSS ASIA



THE BOYS' BRIGADE
ASIA

May-June 2010

BE PARTNERS in The BB Ministry

We believe that the BB ministry is worthwhile and God-inspired for our young people in Asia. Let's be a blessing to them and make a difference to their lives TODAY!

Therefore we would like to appeal to the generosity of each and every one of you reading this newsletter to

support our cause by...

...**making** a personal pledge or contribution.

...**encouraging** as many friends as possible to support.

...**speaking** to your church leadership to consider BB as one of their mission pledges.

...**introducing** corporate or commercial companies who might give regularly as part of their social commitment.

For more details, please visit our website at www.bbasia.org or contact the BB Asia Secretariat. We will be most happy to hear from you.

Disclamation:

Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of The Boys' Brigade Asia.

(Kindly note that we reserve the right to edit or not to publish any contribution deemed unsuitable.)

Executive Secretaries' DIARY

June 2010

10-15 – Penang Malaysia (FC & LT)

- BBM's 19th National Pesta
- BB Asia Executive Committee

26-2/7 – Medan, Indonesia (FC)

- Leadership Training Course
- Basic Officers' Training Course

28-6/7 – Medan, Indonesia (LT)

- Basic Officers' Training Course
- BBI General Council Meeting & Officers Retreat

July 2010

14-20 – Manila, Philippines (FC)

- BB Orientation & Promotion

August 2010

18-22 – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (FC & LT)

- BB Asia Full Time Workers Conference

November 2010

4-7 – Medan, Indonesia (LT)

- BBI's Fund-raising Dinner

5-16 – Manila, Philippines (FC)

- BB Orientation & Promotion

10-17 – Jakarta, Indonesia (LT)

- BOTC & BB Promotion

25-29 – Singapore (FC & LT)

- BB Asia 6th General Council Meeting

NEW OFFICE

for BB Asia Secretariat

We are pleased to inform you that as at 15 July 2010 our new secretariat office is at

2nd Floor, 202

Wisma Methodist

Jalan Hang Jebat

50150 Kuala Lumpur

MALAYSIA

BB ASIA

Purpose

BB Asia has been formed out of a desire to maintain the unity, purpose and specific character of The Boys' Brigade everywhere. It came into being to give The Boys' Brigade an international organisation which would advance its growth, interest and cause.

Objects

The objects of BB Asia are:

- to promote the development and extension of The Boys' Brigade to new fields and territories.
- to strengthen the work of The Boys' Brigade internationally and within each member country
- to help its members to develop and adapt their respective programmes to the needs arising out of the conditions in which young people live and work
- to develop sympathy, understanding, and cooperation among all its members.

BB Asia Executive Committee 2009-2010

Mr Michael Moorthy (President)

Mr Sunny Wu (Vice-President I)

Mr Tan Kok Heng (Vice-President II)

Mr Lim K Tham (General Secretary)

Mr Albert Ching (Asst. General Secretary)

Mr Tye Yew Meng (Treasurer)

Ms Eva Kong (Executive Member)

Ms Resien Chiu (Executive Member)

Mr Ong Teong Hoon (Executive Member)

Rev Dr Li Ping-Kwong (Chaplain)

Rev Richard Tok (Asst. Chaplain)

BB Asia Secretariat

Mr Francis Chiong (Executive Secretary)

Mr Lawrence Tay (Executive Secretary)

CONTACT US

If you wish to receive or send Across Asia to a friend or friends, just drop us an email stating the individual's name and email address.

We gladly welcome comments, news, announcements, prayer items, articles, photographs etc.