



*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 Counsellor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.*
Isaiah 9:6



**JOYOUS
CHRISTMAS
and
BLESSED
2011**
from
**The President,
Executive
Members and Staff
of BB Asia**



REV
RICHARD
TOK
*shares
with us*

A Christmas Message

**NO Room; NO Time;
NO Money?**

"She gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped Him snugly in strips of cloth and laid Him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them. (Luke 2:7)

You may remember sitting in your father's car arriving at a shopping mall to find that there is no parking space for the car. The car park sign reads "full." Or going to the cinema to see the latest sci-fi movie to discover that there are no more seats available! Sign at the ticket booth – "sold out." Some travelers had the bad experience of finding no available rooms in the hotels during major holiday seasons – "no vacancy." These are just common examples of a rude shock to realize there is no place for you at a very urgent needy moment.

It may not occur to you that a long time ago in Bethlehem, Judea, in the country of Israel today, a similar incident happened to Mary and Joseph. They had traveled far on donkey's back and Mary was pregnant with baby Jesus. Arriving at an inn when the sun had set they were told that *"there was no lodging available for them."*

Put yourself in that situation and feel how disappointed and frustrated they could have felt. Tired, hungry and powerless they had to accept what was available to them. They were led to a stable where

animals were kept and there in a manger where hay was placed for the animals to eat, baby Jesus was laid, wrapped in strips of cloth.

Today, 2,100 years later, people all over the world will celebrate Christmas. They will listen to beautiful carols sung in the shopping mall. Colourful decorations with twinkling lights on Christmas trees make everyone delighted. Gifts would be bought and given in exchange. This Christmas celebration may be exciting and people are enthusiastic, but most people celebrate Christmas without Christ in their hearts. The "Birthday Boy" is not remembered because people keep Christ out of their lives. You might have seen Christmas signages shown as "Xmas" - a celebration to an unknown or unwanted person! Are you one of those people who had put up a "no vacancy" sign to Jesus Christ?

Come Christmas people are busy preparing for the eating party. Others get ready to join the carol party to sing. Still others get dressed to go to church. Many will do last minute shopping and decorations. Then there are others getting to the bus station or the airport to get home or go away for Christmas. Are you among the busy people who have no time to think of the real person Christmas is about?



To get the Christmas party ready many things have to be bought. Think of all the food that needed to be cooked - the turkey and the pudding, the chicken curry and the fried noodles. Why, what about the drinks and fruits, the punch and the wine! What about gifts for my best friend, girl-friend, boy-friend, not to forget dad and mum. O dear, Christmas cards are real expensive these

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days and the postage to think of it, now that I have to send them by air because it is very late. Hey, I need a new shirt, a pair of jeans and the latest Adidas for my two big feet. Much is spent for the season but little is spent for the reason of the season. Are you one of those who have "no money" to give to Jesus for His work to help the poor and lonely?

*Have you any room for Jesus,
He who bore your load of sin?
As He knocks and asks admission,
Sinner, will you let Him in?
Room for Jesus, King of glory!
Hasten now, His word obey;
Swing the heart's door widely open.
Bid Him enter while you may.*

Going back to the inn, do you remember that the innkeeper could not find any room for Mary and Joseph? But he did find them a place in the stable. It was away from the noisy crowded inn, full of foul air and foul language from very foul people. While the inn had no more room for Jesus, the innkeeper did have an alternative place for the birth of the King. It was cleaner, quieter and private. The stable was ventilated with open doors and windows. The stars looked down and the angels sang while the cows mooed, the doves cooed, the owl hooted, the sheep bleated, the donkeys brayed, and the horse neighed!



God used a humble man and through him provided a humble place for the arrival of the humble servant-King! Just think how God can use a humble person like you to be useful for the mission of the servant-King.

Consider giving room in your heart to Jesus and letting Him use you in a humble way for his glorious work wherever it might be.

You will surely have "a very merry Christmas and a very happy New Year" when Jesus sits on the throne of your heart and you become His humble servant.

Editor's Note: Rev Richard Tok is the Associate Chaplain of BB Asia.

OUR GREATEST NEED

by Roy Lessin

If our greatest need had
been **information**,
God would have sent us
an **educator**.

If our greatest need had
been **technology**,
God would have sent us a
scientist.

If our greatest need had
been **money**,
God would have sent us
an **economist**.

If our greatest need had
been **pleasure**,
God would have sent us
an **entertainer**.

But our greatest need
was **FORGIVENESS**,
so God sent us a
SAVIOUR.

(Taken from
DaySpring Devotion.)

BB ASIA

6th GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

27 November 2010 * BBS Campus

25 delegates, observers and staff from 5 countries namely, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand assembled at The Boys' Brigade Campus in Singapore on Saturday, 27 November 2010 for their general council meeting and to elect the Executive Committee for 2011-2012. The newly formed committee is as follows.



President

MR MICHAEL MOORTHY

Vice-Presidents

MR SUNNY WU

MR TAN KOK HENG

General Secretary

MR LIM K THAM

Assistant General Secretary

MR ALBERT CHING

Honorary Treasurer

MR TYE YEW MENG

Executive Members

MS EVA KONG

MR LO HOI FOOK

MR NG YEE KHAI

MR ONG TEONG HOON

MS RESIEN CHIU

MR WILSON TAY

Wishing our newly elected Executive
Committee God's blessings in their
endeavours to develop the BB work in Asia.

Bringing you BB News

across ASIA



THE BOYS' BRIGADE
ASIA

November-December 2010



BBI's Fund-Raising

Dinner

A dinner was organised to raise funds for the BB Indonesia's Headquarters and Extension Work on 6 November 2010 at the Duck King Restaurant, Medan. It was the initiative of two former members, Pak Wali and Pak Sunarlim.



The dinner was attended by some 400 guests including Mr Ong Teong Hoon (representing BB Asia), Mr Richard Tan and Officers from 40th Singapore, Mr Ray Lewis (United Kingdom) and Mr Kenny Voon (Malaysia).

It was also a time of reunion of former members from various companies, a first time BB experience for parents and supporters and a showcase of BB members' talents and skills.

This first time effort was worthwhile. A substantial surplus was raised. An unforgettable experience gained. The spirit of team work cultivated. All involved was truly encouraged.

A good start to a new era for BB Indonesia!

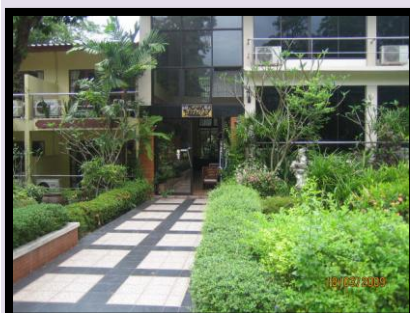
Announcing...

3rd BB ASIA

Academy

Host Country
BB Thailand

Date
15-20 November 2011
(Tuesday-Sunday 6D/5N)



Venue
Sida Resort, Nakhon Nayuk,
(Located at the foot of a mountain in a forest reserve about 2 hours drive from Bangkok.)

Christian Guest House, Bangkok
(Located in the heart of Bangkok city.)



Cost

SGD220 per person

(Inclusive of accommodation, meals, local transfers, entrance fees, training materials and academy T-shirt.)

Theme

A Heart For Mission



Scripture Text

1 John 3:18

"Let us not love in words and tongue but with actions and in truth."



Programme

Training & Workshops, Country Presentations, Community Centre Observation, Visit & Conduct Program for BB Company, Fellowship Campfire.

Registration forms will be released in January 2011. For more details, please visit www.bbasia.org.

Bringing you BB News

ASIA across



THE BOYS' BRIGADE
ASIA

November-December 2010

International Camps

2011

BB AUSTRALIA - 6-15 January

17th Pan Australian Camp

"Catch The Spirit" - Tasmania

For more details visit

<http://boys.brigadeaustralia.org>.

BB INDONESIA

Camp Bersama

This camp is held in celebration of
BBI's 25th Anniversary in 2011.

Date: **27-30 June 2011**

Venue: **Medan, Sumatra**

("Bersama" means *together*.)

3RD BB ASIA Academy

It will be held on 15-20 November
2011 in Bangkok Thailand. This
academy is opened to all BB
members and officers 18 years and
above.

2012

BB MALAYSIA

20th National Pesta

This bi-annual camp is opened to all
BB members 12 years and above.

Date: **June 2012**

Venue: **Johor Bahru**

("Pesta" means *festival*.)

surprise, I was honoured with The Best Boy award in 1998. By then I became the editor of my company newsletter until 2003. I was later promoted to Staff Sergeant in 2000. After returning from my studies in Australia, I continued to serve as an officer with my company.



Awarded Best Boy in 1998

Responding to God's calling and my love for this ministry I began working full time with the BB HQ in 2006. My responsibility is to develop new companies in churches, schools and youth centres. I also handle some activities for BB's Kowloon Central District and HQ.

I appreciate The BB ministry even more when I participated in the 2nd BB Asia Academy in Jakarta in 2008. There I began to understand the vastness of the BB work when I met, share and work with my fellow BB members from the different countries in Asia.



2nd BB Asia Academy in 2008

I was blessed to be selected to attend BB Asia's 1st Full Time Workers conference held in August this year. It was a privilege not just to visit BB Asia's new office but also to attend the dedication service.



1st FTWC in 2010

During this 5-day and 4-night program, we learnt much about the development of each BB country, we became closer through fellowship, group sharing and discussion and we had a great time of worship and prayer.

It is through this conference we were refreshed. I hope that we can continue to support one another when as we work for the long term prospect of BB ministry.

I am thankful to God for a meaningful time at the FTWC on Fraser's Hill recently. To Lawrence and Francis, please accept my gratitude organising the event and for bringing me to the clinic on that first night when I was not well.

Finally, as I look forward to more of such international gatherings, I would like to encourage all my fellow BB members from all around the world not to miss the opportunity to join me in these enriching and enjoyable events.



Editor's Note:

Kelvin is the full-time Development Secretary of BB Hong Kong and an active Officer with the 52nd Company.



**KELVIN
TSANG**
shares

This is my BB Life

The BB has been an important part of my life for the past 17 years. I joined the 52nd BB Company when I was eleven. To my



November-December 2010



Prayer Points

THANK GOD

for His wonderful blessings upon our BB work in Asia in 2010.

"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him." - 2 Corinthians 2:14

- All our generous partners and supporters.
- For the unity and cooperation of our member countries
- An office space and the employment of our second staff for the BB Asia Secretariat.
- The success of our 1st Full Time Workers' Conference
- Progressive extension work in the Philippines and Cambodia.
- The positive response towards our BB work from the churches in mainland China.

PRAY FOR

BB Asia

- the newly elected Executive Committee for 2011-2012 as they endeavor to bring the BB ministry in Asia to the next level.
- The continuing support of generous financial contribution to keep our work going.

Secretariat

- the work of the Secretariat in fulfilling its responsibilities.
- the travels of the staff with protection, good health and fruitful effort.

BB Brunei

- for more adult leadership.

BB Hong Kong

- their work with the churches in mainland China.

BB Indonesia

- the final approval of the registration of BB Indonesia as an organisation.

BB Macau

- for their growth and development.

BB Malaysia

- their 65th Anniversary in 2011.

BB Singapore

- wisdom and strength as they face new challenges ahead.

BB Thailand

- their fund-raising effort to acquire a permanent premise for their HQ.

BB Cambodia

- the 1st enrolment of the 1st Phnom Pehn Company on 19 December 2010.

BB Philippines

- The registration of National BB Philippines with the government.



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

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.

God doesn't comfort us to make us comfortable; He comforts us to make us comforters.

(Taken from ODB Dec-2010)



November-December 2010

Christmas Choice

*"When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy."
Matthew 2:10*

The glitter of bright decorations, the sound of joyous Christmas carols, the happy children, and the cheerful "Merry Christmas" greetings sometimes give the impression that everybody is glad that Jesus came to our planet. But that isn't true today, and it never was.

The news of Jesus' birth evoked a mixed reaction. The wise men joyfully welcomed and worshipped the Saviour (Matthew 2:10-11). But King Herod was so troubled when he heard about it that he tried to find and kill the baby Jesus (v3-4,16). Most people, however, were unaware of the significance of what had happened.

Still today, multitudes honor Jesus and rejoice in their salvation. But many others hate Him. They grumble about the singing of Christmas Carols in shopping malls and the display of nativity scenes in public places. Others are apathetic. They go along with the celebration of the season. They may join in singing Christmas carols, but they never ask themselves who Jesus is or why He came. They don't think of their needs to believe on Him and received Him as their Savior.

Are you among the indifferent? To ignore Him and His claim is to reject Him. Christmas demands a decision about Christ. The choice is yours.
(Written by Herb Vander Lugt)

If you make room for Jesus in your heart, He will make room for you in heaven.

(Taken from Our Daily Bread, December 2003.)

Executive Secretaries' DIARY



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

December 2010

- 5-8 – Manila, Philippines (FC)**
 - Training
- 16-18 – Medan, Indonesia (LT)**
 - Meeting

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 Secretariat

Executive Secretaries

**Mr Francis Chiong
Mr Lawrence Tay**

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.

Kindly note that BB Asia reserves the right to edit or not to publish any contribution deemed unsuitable.

Disclamation:

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

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