

## **HOW TO BEAT THE WINTER BLUE'S     St Simon St Judes CLCGB Earl Shilton Leicester**

During the winter it is hard to keep Brigade members occupied. Cold and snowy nights this year made it all the gloomier, apart from the snow ball fight we had in the mini bus.

With the help from the local primary school we sent our officer in charge who is the premises officer along with a local radio armature guy up onto the roof of the school to set up an aerial between the main building and the two mobiles, this was to support science week within the school along with giving Brigade an insight into the world of radio armatures. On the night members tapped out messages across the world in Morse code and with the help of Mr Neil Gardener, spoke to radio stations across the globe, which resulted members keen to take their basic radio armature's licence. We continued the world of communication on Brigade nights with sending secret messages to each other by flash lights across the Church Hall, making telephones with plastic cups out of the recycle bin (washed of course) and string. Members also carried out experiments to try and amplify the sound by tying knots and loops in the string. We then went on to blind fold some members and tested their sense of hearing and communication skills by using their teams to guide them to pick up objects around the room and place them into a bucket.

To cheer the girls up from the winter blues they were given a free introduction to Make Up from our licensed reader in church who runs a local beauty salon.

Members also held a chocolate Bingo evening to raise funds for our Church to put towards the costs of setting up our local Street Pastor scheme here in our local village something in which we believe in.

During our visit to the local Community House we couldn't resist the temptation to talk our way into our local community radio station. Within minutes members had took over the studio and was given the chance to announce songs live over the radio, a big thank you to Hill Top Radio.

We have also made links with local primary schools and our young leaders erected a plastic glazed greenhouse, winter dug vegetable plots and attend to the chickens on a regular basis for the gardening club.

We are currently making a 10 minute film to be premiered in Leicester with the limo's and red carpet job. Members are currently working along with Phoenix Digital Studios in Leicester on a film project through the "Igniting Ambition Project" which is a fund from the Olympic 2012, especially for projects that engage young people in activities with Olympic themes "personal best". Members have to write, cast, direct, film and edit a ten minute production. Script writers and actors are visiting Brigade to help us with the project. The film will be show cased at a film premier in Leicester, at the Phoenix Theatre on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May along with being shown at other venues such as Snibson Discovery Park and other local film festivals where members will be invited to talk to the public about the film.

Young leaders and members have been trained to operate the camera's and sound

equipment as well as learning about camera White Balance, Focus Pulling and setting up the shots. As I am writing this report today we have just arrived back from filming for eight hours completing sixty five shots today out of one hundred & sixty five, all to be edited and converted to film, so there is still lots of work to be done. with four more full days on filming locations to go. As I have been given the job as Director I never thought that so much work and filming would go into making a ten minute film. With only three weeks to go before its ready we now have to travel to the Editing Studio to trawl through all the footage to find the best shots. One simple shot of two girls walking to school took ten times to get it right without them bursting into laughing fits. If you want to view our early behind the scenes video of us getting used to the equipment copy and paste the link below into your address bar.

<http://www.esclgb.co.uk/showVideo.php?id=12>

Please take a look at our new website [www.esclgb.co.uk](http://www.esclgb.co.uk)

Kindly leave a comment in our guestbook.

Mathew Ekin (Young Leader)