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## Dundee & Angus Battalion

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### REPORT No 27 – 23<sup>th</sup> April 2018

#### Development

As many of you will know the OBM (Online Brigade Management) software has had an update and it is hoped we will have a speaker at our May AGM to discuss these in some detail. A good turn-out is hoped for this Council meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> May. The Battalion continues to operate with 7 companies in Dundee and 6 in Angus. We have 193 registered leaders and 650 boys enrolled in the BB this year.

This is the smallest number in Dundee since 1892; the year after our founding in 1891. Dundee Battalion had 14 companies that year. Can somebody tell me how many existed in Angus around that time? Size and numbers whilst interesting do not tell the whole story as our leaders are all doing sterling work within their own companies.

Enquiries continue to be received, mainly through the battalion website about enrolment, activities and bands' availability. Occasionally placements for work experience with young people come our way and it has been a pleasure to help someone on a chosen career path through contact with the BB. Sometimes this has led them to become a regular member.

#### Queen's Badge Adviser

Thirteen battalion boys completed their Queen's Badge this year and the presentation of certificates by Mrs Osbourne, Lord Lieutenant of Angus will take place in Carnoustie at Newton (Panbride) Church on the afternoon of 17<sup>th</sup> June. I was a member of staff running the Mid Scottish Area Queen's Badge completion course at Carronvale House this month. 52 candidates from the five Battalions successfully completed this course whilst others attended courses in East Lowland and North of Scotland's course at Kincaig. Such is the regard for those who gain their Queen's Badge that the numbers presented each year continue to increase. Seventeen seniors who registered in 2017 should become Queen's Men by 2019. This year a further twenty are expected to start working towards their award having completed the President's badge programme.

#### The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

The 1<sup>st</sup> Carnoustie, 30<sup>th</sup>, and 44<sup>th</sup> Dundee companies have registered boys this year for their Bronze awards and I can offer support through advice, visits and mentoring sessions. Many more BB members are undertaking various stages of the Award through their local school or cadet unit. Please note all those leading expeditions must now hold an expedition certificate which entails attendance at the two part leader training in theory and a practical weekend overnight camping assessment.

*Roddy Taylor*

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