

CO-ORDINATOR



FOR LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUTERS

NUMBER 4

SEPTEMBER 1959

PLEASE TO REMEMBER THE TWENTY SIXTH OF SEPTEMBER

According to our diaries, the sun sets at 6.50. Just forty minutes later, the music starts at St Paul's hall for the beginning of another of the highly esteemed dances organised by Letchworth District Rover Crew (LDRC to ypu) mainly for your pleasure. David Turner will be mastering the ceremonies this time, as we are saving John Baker up for the next one. Fans of either or both should come along to compare the two styles, as well as to eat some of the food that will be handed round. Entertainment - food - music - dancing - all this for three bob? How do they do it? But have you seen the coupon on page 4? Cut it out NOW and use it to get YOUR dance ticket at the CO-ORDIBATOR reader' privilege price of HALF A CROWN!

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The gauntlet is thrown down by 4L Seniors to any Senior troop who think it is possible to beat them at Indoor Football. For list of rules apply Brian Watkins, 88 Southfields.

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OUR DISTRICT - - - - -BY OUR A.D.C.

Yes, I want to have a word about the Gang Show for next year. It may seem a bit early to you, but a big affair like this has to be planned well in advance. The Gang Show committee has been meeting and we already have a programme down on paper. There is always room for improvement, of course, so if you have any suggestions, please let me know about them.

We've got one new "back-stage" idea this year, and have sought the approval of the LA executive for the sale of Gang Show calendars. These would be simple pocket calendars for 1960 plus an advertisement for the show to be sold at 2d., which would bring in a lot of useful cash for the production. Hannah Shannon and Dave Turner have agreed to look after distribution and we expect to have 5,000 ready on the first of October. If every member of the movement, from Cubs to Guildsmen and lay members will help to sell these calendars, half the Gang Show's worries will be eased. Out of the profits in 1959, we gave £30 to the LA executive for the benefit of the district.

Lastly let me make an earnest appeal for help, especially from the Scouts over 14, Seniors and Rovers, not just to assist behind the scenes (though that is most welcome) but actually on stage adding weight to the enthusiasm of your younger brothers. Please do come along to the first rehearsal: District HQ, 6 p.m. Saturday 2 January.

F.H.T.C.

CUB PRELIMINARY TRAINING COURSE

All Cubbers should leap at the chance of this weekend, which is to be at HERTFORD on 24 and 25 OCTOBER. Transport may possibly be arranged, so please let the DC know you are going, as soon as possible.

SWIMMING SPORTS 1959

You know the date: Monday 7 September, at Letchworth Swimming Pool. Cubs will be there by 6.15, Scouts by 6.35. Normal admission charges will be made by Letchworth UDC. Events are as follows:-

CUBS up to 11th birthday	SCOUTS up to 13th birthday	SCOUTS up to 15th birthday
20 yds breast stroke	20 yds breast stroke	55 yds breast stroke
20 yds back stroke	20 yds back stroke	40 yds back stroke
20 yds free style	20 yds free style	55 yds free style
relay of 3 boys	relay of 3 boys	relay of 3 boys
-----	diving	diving
(20 yards is one width)		

CIVIL DEFENCE EXERCISE

Messengers are wanted for a big affair in Letchworth on the evening of Wednesday 30 September. Two each, please, from 1L, 2L, 3L, 4L and 7L Scouts? Names given to LDRC will be told where to report, and when.

HARKEE:

"We are most anxious that our thanks and appreciation should be passed on to the Scouts who helped at the fete. We feel that they worked magnificently and were a credit to the Letchworth Boy Scouts." Thus Mr F.Lidgitt, treasurer of the Inter-Works Sports League, sending the LA five guineas for the use of the marquee! Bondor Sports Club and Letchworth Round Table have also had the marquee for their occasions, and have each sent a guinea.

RETREAT FOR ROMAN CATHOLIC SCOUTS

This is on Sunday 20 September at 2B HQ. The Rev. Edward Arm-itage, County Chaplain, tells us that though it's an entirely religious function, District Scouters would be very welcome to drop in for tea afterwards, about 5.0, and meet the boys.

WHAT ARE LAVENDER POKERS?

Answer: jolly good things for raising money. 4L Cub John Ransford made 'em, sold 'em, and gave £1 to the Group's building fund!

CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN in CO-ORDINATOR 2 included the question: If smoking is a bad example, why do we set it so often...even at troop and pack nights? We are glad to print replies from two readers.

"Three boys, out on the loose from the school on the hill, walked for a couple of miles and then hopped quickly into a wood, after making quite sure that no one was about. They followed a narrow track through the wood until they reached an open space: here they stopped, sat down and pulled out their cigars! They bit off the ends, lit up and began to puff away: it was all very exciting but strangely enough the novelty and pleasure soon began to wear thin. And it was just then that a school prefect quite by chance stumbled upon them. Now, smoking was contrary to school regulations, but the prefect instead of telling them to stop told them to go on, or he would report them. And go on they did, feeling dreadful all the time, and they went on till they were green in the face and feeling mighty sick. Well, the prefect kept his word and the matter was never reported. As for the three miserable boys, well, they never again broke that regulation! Now, obviously these boys were not Scouts, for had they been they would have had more sense than to tackle cigars! They might possibly have had a go at Whiffs or cigs, but even these are taboo to Scouts, and Scouts are strongly urged not to smoke till they are at least 17. And as regards Scouters smoking, I'm sure they ought not to do it in Scout uniform, and certainly not in the presence of boys at meetings or in camp: it's a bad example and it seems so utterly incongruous with the high ideals of the Scout movement. I can say this for I have long been a Scout and long been a smoker," XYZ

(Name and address withheld)

"I don't agree with smoking while wearing Scout uniform in the presence of other people not connected with the movement. The reason is that though I am a smoker myself, there are too many people ready to hit the Scout movement below the belt for anything they consider may be a little incorrect. A Scouter seen smoking in public tends to give the impression that Scouts are not supervised by the right type of person. Daily a Scout comes in contact with a lot of people who smoke (e.g., parents, schoolteachers); therefore surely it's not expected that an SM should set an example to the boys themselves regarding smoking. I don't think that Scouters should stop smoking just because they are Scouters, but should smoke where they are not seen,"

B.WATKINS

SM, 4L

Any more comments? CO-ORDINATOR is free for all.

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OPERATION KON-TIKI is coming shortly! Some time this month, the Seniors of the district will try to live entirely on rafts on Radwell Mere, from Saturday lunch till Sunday tea. Spectators will be advised to bring their own waterwings.

LAST PAGE

Room for a bit of news about CO-ORDINATOR itself. From what we hear, it seems to be establishing itself as a useful medium of communication between Scouters in the district, which is what it's meant to be. We would remind you that it is produced and distributed by Letchworth District Rover Crew, free of charge to all the District's Scouters, both warranted and acting, TLs, CIs, and to chairmen, secretaries and treasurers of Group committees. Costs are borne by the LA, although if any reader wants to help, any small sums given to LDRC for the CO-ORDINATOR fund will enable us to send less frequent bills to Mr Fletcher, the LA treasurer.

We are a little worried, perhaps, about whether CO-ORDINATOR is read quite as widely as it might be, Official notices from the LA and the DC are published here, as well as general lists of forthcoming events, like the one below. But there are Senior Scouts, for instance, who have never heard of CO-ORDINATOR. We don't think it would be harmful reading. Would any GSM or SM like an extra copy to display on a Group or Troop notice board? If so, please ask, and you shall receive. Secretary: Max Vines, 18 Norton Way North. Treasurer: John Collins, 33 Mullway. Or tell any Rover or SA.

ANOTHER BOX OF DATES

All Secretaries, GSMs, TLs and Sixers are invited – nay, implored – to use this column. Let us know the dates of your jumble sales, bun fights, skiffle sessions – and avoid clashing with others.

SEPTEMBER

- 2 7L A and B packs joint outing, with parents, to Wickstead Park
- 5 Pothunters' trophy competition (Seniors)
- 5-6 Gilwell reunion
- 7 District swimming sports : see page 2
- 12-13 Icknield Shield competition (Scouts)
- 13 Rover Leaders' conference, Well End
- 14 LA meeting, DHQ, 8.0
- 20 Retreat for Roman Catholic Scouts, 2B HQ : see page 2
- 23 Letchworth & District B-P Guild, DHQ, 7.45
- 23 All information in for October CO-ORDINATOR, please!
- 26 LDRC dance, St Paul's hall, 7.30-11.0 : see page 1 and below
- 27 Distribution of CO-ORDINATOR 5
- 30 Messengers wanted for Civil Defence exercise : see page 2

OCTOBER

- 2 4L open evening: pageant
- L | 2-4 Senior gathering, Knebworth
- O | 10 4L jumble sale, 2.30
- O | 10-11 Harpenden conference
- K | 24 County executive, Well End
- L | 24-25 Cub prelim.: see page 2

NOVEMBER

- O | 4 Winter patrol competition.

DECEMBER

- L | 12 4L group party

- O | 2 JANUARY 1960 : Gang Show rehearsal

K |

THIS COUPON IS WORTH

SIXPENCE

It entitles you to a
3/- ticket for the 26
September LDRC DANCE
FOR ONLY 2s.6d!!!!!!