

CO-ORDINATOR

MONTHLY NEWS SERVICE FOR LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUTERS
NUMBER 13 JUNE 1960

ACC AT AGM

This is the only report published so far of the address by ACC Harold Warren to the annual general meeting of Letchworth & Baldock LA on 18 May. Do read it, especially if you were not at the meeting.

After congratulating the district on its good showing in the county, the ACC passed on the greetings of CC Dr Pears, who had asked him to mention the recent Albemarle report, and how it affects us.

Not only does this report suggest a chance of easier grants, but it has caused more county thought on finance. Why is so much energy spent on fundraising in our Groups? No troop should have to do without any vital equipment, from now on.

Otherwise, the Albemarle report disappoints. We are still looked on as a kids' movement, and the report gives little consideration to anyone under 15. Youth clubs and even schools are now impinging on Scouting activities, which we pioneered. If we are to survive as a movement, we must go on pioneering. We must adapt ourselves to modern ideas, especially in thinking of the older boy.

There is still that gap between 13 and 15 where so many boys are lost. Why? What do they want from Scouting? First, ADVENTURE; secondly, FELLOWSHIP.

Boys leave Scouts because they make slow progress. There should be six times as many first-class Scouts as there are now. Second-class is only a year's work for any boy - and a pretty dull boy at that:"

First, more ADVENTURE. The making of a trestle in second-class work is not to pass a test, but to build a real bridge. Secondly, more FELLOWSHIP. This must mean more consciousness of belonging to a worldwide brotherhood, by making more and more contacts with Scouts in the district, in the county, other counties and overseas.

Above all, it is up to "us" to find more of the right SPIRIT of duty to God, through the Law and Promise. We must help to find the boy as he is: not as he thinks he is. This can be done through his friends and brother Scouts, and the fostering of a certain humility in ourselves. We may have in our Troop or Pack some of the coming men who are going to help in the building up of a new religious England.

And the last words of the ACC to you - the Scouters and parents of Letchworth, Baldock and the district - were "Good Scouting and every happiness!"

Other Points

from the AGM...

...The Bob-a-job total was £286 : 14s. 7d. (Group totals, page 6.)

...The Gang Show spent £256 and took £306, as well as gaining prestige. Please book your seats earlier next year!

...Is the ground at the back to be left like it is or cleared up like it was? (Answer: Cleared up.)

...Are we still looking-after the hall as well as we should? (Answer: The House Committee will be convened again, after the next LA executive.)

...Who won the Cub handicraft display? David Pearce (5L) for his ship, followed by the joint-effort jungle of 7L, Wednesday.

...The new LA. Chairman is Mr Sydney Blaxland, 55 Bedford Road, Letchworth. The Secretary is again Mrs Zara Hyde, 89 Monklands; and the Treasurer Mr George Fletcher, 13 Broadwater Avenue. You may keep these for future reference.

...Our district representatives on the County Scout Council are Mr Blaxland and DCM Miss Hannah Shannon, 7 Monklands, Letchworth.

NOW SAILING INTO ITS SECOND YEAR,

CO-ORDINATOR is still manned and navigated by Letchworth District Rover Crew, who bombard the following people with it each month, whether they like it or not.

All active Scouters, warranted or not.

*Group chairmen, secretaries and treasurers.

*Lay representatives on the LA executive

*Guide district officials and Guiders.

Other copies are supplied at 2d. each (payable in advance) to Guildsmen, parents and anyone interested, Costs are borne by the LA, but we are always glad of the odd bob or two from our grateful readers, to shed the load.

SHOULD SENIOR SCOUTS AND ROVER SCOUTS WEAR LONG TROUSERS?

As readers of "The Scout" and "The Scouter" will be aware, IHQ is issuing a questionnaire in September, which will invite the opinions of Commissioners, District and Group Scouters, Rovers, Seniors and Scout Troop: Courts of Honour, on the above question.

Well, it should cause some argument. If you feel strongly, why not express yourself in CO-ORDINATOR first? And what are your opinions of these activities? (1) The patrol meeting having fun by throwing Fatty in the nettles. (2) The Senior Scout standing on A1 for 15 minutes trying to thumb a lift. (See POR 349.)

LETCWORTH DISTRICT ROVER CREW

is composed of two sub-species: first, the FULL members, who can attend regularly and pay the full subscription of £1 a year (10s. for full-time students). Secondly, there are ASSOCIATE members, whose other commitments prevent regular attendance; they pay 5s. a year, plus 1s. for each meeting they do attend, up to a maximum of £1. In either case, young men may join as Rover Squires (RSq) at 17 according to POR, but normally at 18. After a probationary period as RSq, investiture as Rover Scout (RS) duly takes place.

There are no Scouters in charge of LDRC, but it is run (most of the time) by two Rover Mates (RM). 23 is the maximum age; you cease to be a RS when you reach 24. In spite of this, LDRC tolerates a very select few HONORARY members, who are not Rovers but are expected to pay the full sub.

Any Scouter, Guildsman or roving Rover who cares to drop in at any time will be sure of a welcome. Meetings are on Sundays at 8 p.m. in the den at DHQ.

We particularly want to extend an invitation to Scouters (S) and Senior Scouts, to look in occasionally and have a cuppa. (There is always plenty of work to be done, too!) GSMs, do please be sure that your Seniors know about LDRC. As the years go by, more Rovers will be needed. Only when there are plenty to go round will we be able to fulfil our real aim - a Rover Crew in every Group in the District!

WHO'S WHOin LDRC***

FULL MEMBERS

RM John Collins (treasurer)
RM Maxwell Vines (secretary)
RS Robert Day (ASM 7L)
RS John Foster (ASM 3L)
RS David Northover
RS Peter Wey
RSq Christopher Brown
RSq Andrew Carmichael
RSq Terence Favell
RSq Alastair Gordon

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

RS Martin Brown (ASM 1L)
RS John de Louvois
RS Arundel Hoyer
RS Guy Randle
RS Jeffrey Robson (ASM 1L)
RSq Michael Blaxland
RSq Edward James
R8q Noel Parkhouse
RSq Michael Tippet

HONORARY MEMBERS

SM David Turner(3L)
SA Kenneth Johnson

CAN ANY OTHER TROOP EQUAL THIS?

Each patrol in 1B has its own small allotment outside the HQ. Potatoes, beans, beetroot, lettuce, radishes and shallots are among the crops being raised for summer camp supplies.

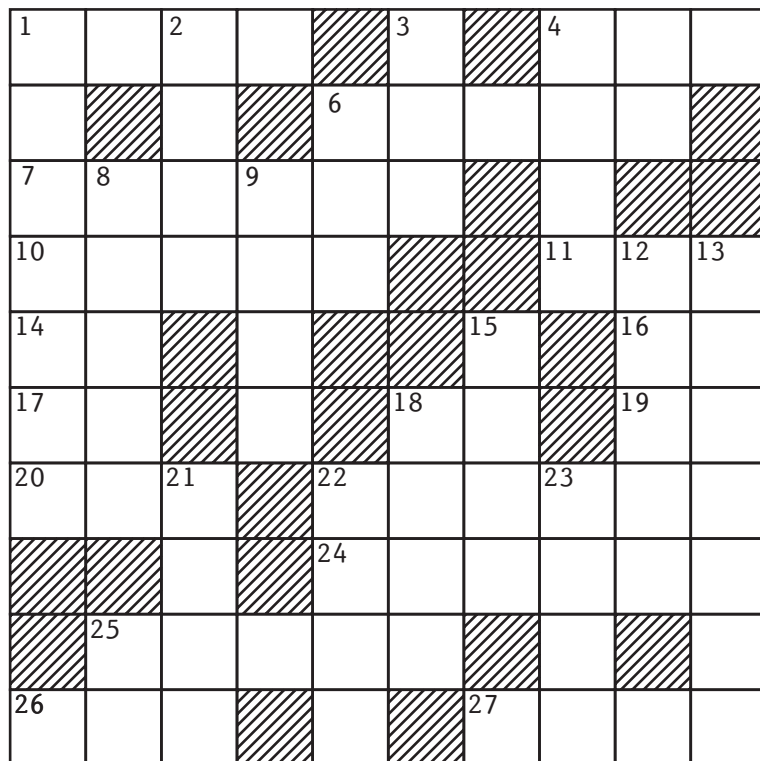
CO-ORDINATOR CROSSWORD
with a Gang Show flavour :
devised by Judy Conlon (CM, 7L)

ACROSS

1. The Gang in plaster?
4. Alastair the beautiful.
6. First act finale was this occasion.
7. Draughty place to make up?
10. Tell CO-ORDINATOR if you have a pet one.
11. A medal to go with his white plume.
14. Assistant to 5 down.
16. Opposite end from NSW.
17. It will do.
18. Direction of Weston from Letch-
19. Royal cypher. (worth.
20. Ocean upset in Stevenage.
22. What to do in evening dress.
24. Link. 25. Patrols make this.
26. Pound on flags and stages - but not Scouts!
27. Good for stickability.

DOWN

- 1 and 15 She's well worth waiting for.
2. This comes between God and the Queen.
3. Dick's talked,
4. Found in the Gobi desert.
5. The most important chap in Scouts.
6. Direction of Ashwell from Baldock.
8. Leave eggs here don't throw them at 1 across!
9. Quits.



12. Gang Show had a 24 across of these.
15. See 1.
15. Country in Europe, Russia or America.
18. Where'to wait for 1 and 13.
21. Decapitated fairy.
22. Our stage director is one.
23. Nothing before a friend for a gem.
25. Big bloke in 25 across.

SOLUTION NEXT MONTH

AN INVITATION!

All PLs, Seniors, Rovers and Scouters are invited to the Letchworth & Baldock District GIRL GUIDES' JUBILEE CAMPFIRE on Friday 24 June, to celebrate the GOLDEN JUBILEE OF GUIDITG. Place: Weston Hills, Baldock (reference 252328) . Time: 8.30 p.m.

ANOTHER INVITATION!

Any Guildsman, With their wives and families, are invited to join the MIDDLESEX BP GUILD CAMP, at Well End, 17-13 September: Details .from Douglas James 49 Norton Road.

AND ANOTHER!

All Roman Catholic Scouts: and Scouters are invited to the SPIRITUAL RETREAT at Barvin Park, Potters Bar, from 3.15 Saturday 25 June to 4.30 Sunday 26 June. Details and application forms from CM May Clare, 12 Pembroke Road, Baldock.

AND STILL THEY COME!

Everybody (but EVERYBODY) is invited to the 4L SUMMER FAIR at St Paul's church hall from 2.30 Saturday 18 June. Hurry along and join in the fun, and give your brother Scouts a little help with their building fund for a new HQ. (You might, incidentally, pick up a few ideas for your own Group's benefit! But let's not be mercenary,)

SOMEWHERE IN THIS DISTRICT

is a Boy Scout without a beret. He left it at the Free Church after the St George's Day service. There is no name in it, and it is now waiting to be called for at 7 Campfield Way, Letchworth. If it is not claimed this month, it will be transferred to the UNEX stock free to any hard-up tenderfoot who needs it.

UNEX (UNiform EXchange) Is run at the above address by Mrs I.J.Foster. She has a number of items of Scout and Cub uniform - caps, woggles, shorts, etc. - second-hand but in good condition - all available free to any deserving patrol or pack. Call at any reasonable time.

UNEX is always open to receive any good surplus items of uniform for exchange. Contributors may fix reserve prices if they wish.

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CAN ANY OTHER PACK EQUAL THIS?

David Lewis and Peter Saunders, of 5L, have just won their Leaping Volvos by getting all three of the "service" proficiency badges First Aider, Guide and House Orderly) - any one of which is compulsory in the new rules.

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→ SCOUTMASTERS!

Your attention is drawn to the fact that on page 6 is your official notice of the next Scouters' Council, on Monday 4 July. You will not get a postcard about it, so please make a note of it now, and come and air your views on District troop affairs.

→ CUBMASTERS!

Your attention is drawn to the fact that on page 6 is your official notice of the next Rock Council, on Thursday 9 June. You will not get a postcard about it, so please make a note of it now, and come and air your views on District pack affairs.

→ SCOUTERS AND LAY MEMBERS!

Your attention is drawn to the fact that page 6 is your official notice about the next LA executive committee meeting, on Monday 27 June. All right?

ROVER IN AFRICA

WE HAVE HEARD FROM HARRY - a Letchworth Rover temporarily disguised as 5071175 Aircraftman HOYE, A.J. at El Adem in Libya. Here is his account of his hike through the desert with other Rovers of First El Adem, at Easter.

"WE MANAGED TO BORROW two rucksacs in which all the food was packed. From the Scout Group we had a nest of billies and then we had to purchase two one-gallon polythene jerricans to carry water for the journey. Food for the seven of us for three days weighed about 112 lb., and it consisted of tinned compo rations (ham and beans, meat and veg, and so on) hard tack biscuit, jam etc.; and the amount of water consumed was 6 gallons.

"PERSONAL KIT was kept to a strict minimum: groundsheet, two blankets, jersey, socks and a pair of trousers for the cold nights.

"TEN DAYS BEFORE we set off, the Armaments Officer squashed our original idea flat by telling us that the route we'd chosen covered three of the largest minefields ever laid, and still uncleared. So instead we went east, towards Egypt, about forty miles by wagon, to a small hamlet called Abair Zaid.

WE STARTED WALKING at 1700 hours, on a compass bearing from Abair Zaid to the coast. All the way to the top of the wadi leading to the sea, the ground was the same - hard packed sand with a loose covering on top, and rocks and stones scattered all over the place. At some points we had to make detours around cultivated plots of barley, which grew about twelve inches high and smelt as if one was back home.

"ON CLIMBING the second ridge from the road, we came in view of an Arab encampment about a quarter of a mile away. As is the custom, on our approach all the women disappeared inside the tents. But we were soon met by an Arab who wanted to

know where we were going, what we were doing, where we had come from and if we had anything buckshee.

HALF A MILE past this camp we came to the wadi, continued through fields of lettuce, onions, beans and peas, and found shelter under some overhanging rocks for the night.

"FRIDAY'S JOURNEY was quite diffexent. We either crossed the Wadis that stretched a long way inland, or walked round the shorter ones. In three hours we reached Marsa Belafahrit where we had a swim and our midday meal, pushing on again at 1215. Now the terrain became much more rugged, and the wadis steeper and deeper. The hard compact sand became looser, with some hillocks of rock, and soon we were crossing proper sand dunes. The weather changed abruptly from the scorching hot sun to a short rain shower.

"AT 1530 hours we saw the first signs of habitation - an Arab camp about a mile away, and then in the next wadi a herdsman with his goats. He told us if we wanted water the Arabs would. give us some in exchange for cigarettes. However, we found a well with its entrance concealed by rocks. At 1600 hours we made camp about 20 feet from the sea, sheltered by high rocks on two sides, with a two-foot mattress of dry seaweed to sleep on.

"A THUNDERSTORM at 0100 hours on the Saturday woke us before the rain began. After breakfast two of us went to the well to fill the empty jerrican. The water was rather brackish, with a green tint. When the can was full, there were several tadpoles inside, which we left; but we put a frog back in the well. We put in the paludrin (water purifying tablets), and set off for the road, to avoid the anti-tank trench which circles Tobruk. This was mined, with more mine-fields round it. Although the area we were walking in was supposed to be clear, there is not a 100% guarantee.

"AFTER FIVE HOURS,, with a stop' for dinner, we hit the road, just after finding an unexploded mortar shell half buried in the sand. On the road, it got much hotter, and the very strong wind blew sand straight in our faces, so we rested for the afternoon. As we finished our meal at 1350, it suddenly started pelting down with rain. After a hurried pack, seven wet Rovers started a forced route march along the road, intending to go through the night to reach the Scout camp 5 miles beyond Tobruk. But we had to camp by the road at 2300 as one chap could go no further with his bad feet. And by now it had stopped raining.

"ON EASTER SUNDAY we used most of our water making tea, for breakfast, and then set off at 0800 hours, continuing to our finishing point at the French cemetery at 1100. From here we managed to get a lift to Tobruk.

"AT THE END we all agreed that it was a hike of endurance, as it was intended to be, covering about 60 miles

in all types of weather - scorching sun by day, very cold desert nights, gale force winds, thunder and dust storms

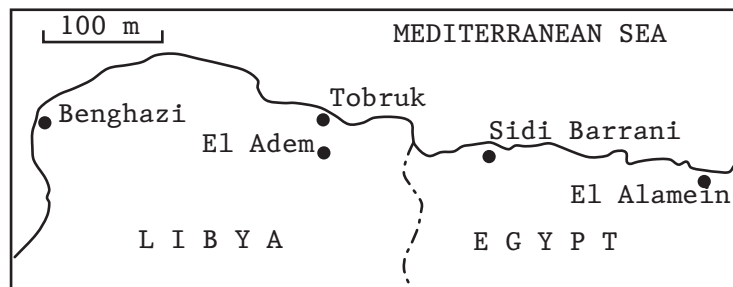
"WE SAW THESE ANIMALS on the way: columns of marching black ants; red ants; tortoises; desert foxes, and wild desert dogs; jerboas (the "desert rats") and the Arabs' camels, donkeys and goats.

"I AM SORRY this report was not sent earlier, but I seem to be rather busy lately, what with Cubs and Rovers, and swimming in the afternoons to try and keep cool. My friend and I have made a tent, completely hand sewn, taking about 15 hours each. I must finish now as I want a shower before tea.
HARRY"

Malcolm Block, Room 1,
Royal Air Force, El Adem,
B.F.P.O. 56.

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*JUST A THOUGHT left over from Bob-a-Job Week...Have your Cubs and Soouts done those free "thank-you" jobs yet?



LIVE LETTER:-

"Dear CO-ORDINATOR:
I am terribly sorry to have to write in a complaint to you, but I think that the seriousness of this matter requires attention.
"On applying just recently to the farmer who owns the piece of land at Radwell springs, I was told that he was very displeased by the way his ground had been treated by some 'Girl Guides' (as he said). They had apparently dug about a dozen fire pits, and when they had finished they did not fill in their pits or replace the turf, so causing an ugly area around the springs, plus leaving a rather unpleasant situation for local Scouts and Guides.
"Can we all be more tidy and leave our camp sites in a proper manner? Once again, I am sorry for having to write a complaint to what is usually a first class magazine.
"Yours in Scouting:
W.G.BRUCE
ASM(S) 1B."
:::Could be that the farmer was mistaken when he said they were Guides.
We should be glad to print a denial from our sister movement in the July edition of CO-ORDINATOR

CO-ORDINATOR 13 : PAGE 6

B O B - A - J O B G R O U P T O T A L S compiled by LA Treasurer G.Fletcher

Group	1959	1960
First Letchworth	37. 19. 5	30. 10. 2
Second Letchworth.....	35. 17. 9.....	47. 15. 8
Third Letchworth	43. 5. 0	24. 8. 9
Fourth Letchworth.....	58. 5. 3	31. 4. 0
Fifth Letchworth	14. 16. 0	18. 5. 0
Seventh Letchworth.....	42. 19. 3.....	41. 10. 11
First Baldock	46. 4. 10	41. 15. 7
Second Baldock.....	20. 19. 9.....	21. 5. 0
First Weston	6. 1. 3	20. 8. 5
First Ashwell.....	12 . 3. 6.....	9. 13. 5
Total	£296. 10. 0	£286. 14. 7

★ D A T E S ! ★ DON'T SAY YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TOLD!

M A Y

31 5L AGM, Westbury School, 6.45

J U N E

- 4-6 Operation Kon-Tiki for Seniors, Radwell Mere
- 1-6 South Eastern Counties Rover Moot, Bourley Camp, Aldershot
- 7 1B parents' .meeting and draw for raffle prizes
- 9 Rock Council, DHQ, 8.15 : ALL CUBMASTERS PLEASE TRY
- 11-12 County Marathon
- 11 1B jumble sale, 3.0
- 17-19 International weekend, Gilwell Park (see page 159, "Scouter")
- 18 4L summer fair, St Paul's hall, 2.30
- 18 Gang Show reunion, DHQ
- 24 District Guides' Jubilee Campfire, Weston Hills, 8.30
- 25-26 Retreat for Roman Catholic Scouts, Potters Bar (see page 3)
- 25 Cub Open Day, Gilwell Park (see page 158 in "The Scouter")
- 25 All news in to Ken Johnson for "Citizen" Scout notes, please
- 27 LA executive committee, 4L HQ (by St Paul's church), 8.30
- 25 Last items in for CO-ORDINATOR 14, please:

J U L Y

- 3 Distribution of CO-ORDINATOR 14 by LDRC
- 4 Scouters' Council, DHQ, 8.30
- 11 1W open evening, Weston School
- 16-17 CMs' get-together (with a Commonwealth accent), Well End

S E P T E M B E R

- 5-4 Gilwell Reunion
- 17-18 Middlesex BP Guild family camp, Well End (see page 3)
- 30-2 October Senior Gathering, North Medburn Farm, Radlett

HAVE YOU TOLD US ABOUT YOUR GROUP'S S PLANS FOR FUTURE EVENTS?

Just a postcard to 18 Norton Way North, or a word in the ear of any Rover, will ensure full FREE publicity: