

CO-ORDINATOR

MONTHLY NEWS SERVICE FOR LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUTERS,
ASSISTANTS, COMMITTEE OFFICIALS AND GUIDERS

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NUMBER 29

OCTOBER 1961

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COUNTY SCOUTERS' CONFERENCE

We have one week left before 30 September to post our applications to attend this year's conference. This takes place at the splendid new building called the Mid Herts. College of Further Education, at The Campus in Welwyn Garden City. It begins at 3.45 p.m. on SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER and ends at 4.30 p.m. on the Sunday.

This year's theme is: "VARIETY - THE SPICE OF LIFE", and speakers will include Dorian Williams, Sir Hugh Linstead, MP, Dr Leslie Pears, Melville Balsillie, the ACC Handicapped Scouts, and the DC Welwyn Garden City.

Discussion groups will be led by all the other ACCs (Robertson, Warren, Booth, Freeman); there are films, dancing, Scouts' Own and the open session. Cost is 2/6 if you don't eat or sleep there, or up to 21/6 including all meals and a bed overnight. Application forms are available NOW from the DC, DSM, or District Secretary,

BINGO?

All commissioners have received a letter from BSA HQ, commenting on Tombola or Bingo drives as a fund-raising scheme. Following a recent House of Lords judgement, there is very grave doubt on the legality of such drives if run by a unit of the Movement, or its supporters, if the proceeds are for the benefit of the unit itself or its members.

Further guidance is expected soon in "The Scouter" and an official pamphlet. Meanwhile, it is strongly recommended that no such drives should take place. If by chance there should be a prosecution, the consequent publicity would harm the reputation of the Movement.

Sideshows involving bingo or tombola at bazaars or fetes are equally ill-advised until the legal position is clear. The same applies to whist or bridge drives, which are equally treated in the Small Lotteries and Gaming Act 1956.

Even if all these are found to be quite legal, the Association's policy towards raffles, draws and lotteries remains and will remain unaltered.

NOTE FOR GROUP COMMITTEES

The weekly magazine "The Scout" - the only Scout weekly in the world - is in need of higher sales in order to ensure its continuation.

If your committee is not already doing so, may we suggest that it should subscribe for a few copies each week? Reading it yourselves will keep you in touch with a lot of current Scouting affairs - but more important is the help it can give to the troop and pack, if they read its news, training hints, competitions, charts and so on.

It costs 6d. - not too much for your committee to provide each Scout patrol and each Cub six with a copy every week. Please raise the idea at your next meeting.

FIRST-CLASS TRAINING

LDRC is arranging two days mainly for the testing of second-class Scouts who are about half way through their first-class work. The days are Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 November, at DHQ, available to boys of any troop in this District. Full details will appear in CO-ORDINATOR 30,

PATROL LEADERS' WEEKEND

The success of previous training weekends for PLs and PSs showed that a useful bit of Rover service was being provided. So LDRC will be running another one from Friday evening, 8 December, to Sunday afternoon, 10 December, at DHQ, where all necessary eating and sleeping will also take place. More details will follow, but Scouters are asked to begin estimating numbers fairly soon.

SCOUT WOOD BADGE

The preliminary training course at Letchworth DHQ (mentioned hopefully here last month) is now definitely ON. The three consecutive Sundays are 19 and 26 November and 3 December. Application forms will be out in the next few weeks but SMs and ASMs should book those dates. Those who have already attended similar courses may attend this one as a refresher, if they wish. They probably will.

CUB WOOD BADGE

A full Part 2 course will be held at Well End next year, on three week ends: 28-29 April, 5-6 and 18-19-20 May.

SENIOR WOOD BADGE

A preliminary training course will be held in January: details to follow.

GUIDES DEPARTMENT

Don't Forget The GGLAAGM !

The Girl Guides Local Association Annual General Meeting is on Monday 13 November at 7.30 in the Church Rooms, Commerce Avenue, Letchworth. All parents are invited, and any members of the Scout movement. Guest speaker will be a Guider who accompanied the "Extension Guide" trip to Switzerland in August.

Wool Collection

We now hear that the firm will not be collecting until 6 October, so you have until then to get your harvest of wool gathered in to the Ranger Hut. Please see Mrs Hester about opening the place.

Uniforms

Headquarters official uniforms are now to be stocked by Spinks & Son, 49-51 Leys Avenue, Letchworth. It is now hoped to clarify the confusion over different dyes for ties. Will each company make sure of deciding what its official colour is, and letting Spinks know which shade is to be ordered. The HQ list of colours is as follows:

Sapphire blue, Sky blue, Hyacinth blue.
Bunting yellow, Saffron gold.

Emerald green, Tartan green.

Scarlet, Peony red. Silver grey.

Lists of required patrol and six emblems would. also be appreciated.

Badge Arranger

No-one has yet been appointed to succeed Mrs Tullet in this job, so will Guiders please carry on as before until further notice?

Company and Pack Reports

Brief reports, please, to Mrs Drylie in good time before the GGLAAGM (see above).

CHANGES OF NAME

The Committee of the Council has decided to omit the word "Imperial" from the title of the Headquarters of the Association, which will be known, in future, as "Headquarters, The Boy Scouts Association".

From 1 October, the nomenclature of Scoutmasters (Senior) is changed. SM(S) will now be SSL - Senior Scout Leader. ASM(S) becomes ASSL - Assistant Senior Scout Leader. DSM(S) becomes DSSL - District Senior Scout Leader. The words "Senior Scouts" are to replace "Boy Scouts" on all over-15 badges; and first class badges will not be worn when the Queen's Scout badge has been awarded.

Y A C YOUTH SUNDAY

This new event, proposed for Sunday 22 October, is cancelled for this year.

UNEX

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7 Campfield Way, Letchworth

Mrs Foster now has the following items among her stock, available on request at any reasonable time:-

1 Scout shirt, size 15 collar

2 small shirts

1 Scout beret

3 pairs shorts, waists 22-24

several larger pairs of shorts

1 green neckerchief

4 Cub caps

FOUND PROPERTY

Anyone knowing of anyone losin a bunch of three keys at the 7L Cub camp at Henlow is asked to contact SS Stephen Page, who has them at 21 Valley Road, Letchworth.

WINTER SENIOR SCOUT EXPEDITION

Notices are now going out to local Senior troops about this expedition, which starts at Hag Dike near Kettlewell, West Riding, on the evening of 26 December, and ends in the morning of 4 January 1962. A coach will be taking the expedition from Hertfordshire to West Riding and back, and the cost will not be more than £7 for the whole thing - possibly less. There are 24 places for Seniors who can hike, and if they are not all taken, Rovers will get first refusal. Full information is available at the Senior Gathering next weekend, or from Geoff Birch, 47 Laurel Way, N.20.

DESPATCH RIDER BADGE

Tests for the Despatch Rider badge are being arranged by DSM(S) Jim Bruce for the evening of Monday 16 October, beginning at 7.30 at 1B HQ, Park Drive Baldock. Bring bicycles, of course, and mugs. The evening is open to any Scouts over 14½, but please let Jim know as soon as possible how many to cater for. His address: 21 Green Lane, Letchworth.

ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE 1962

The meeting of the LA Executive Committee on 11 September approved the proposal to hold next year's St George's Day parade on Sunday 29 April, in Ashwell, with the service in St Mary's church. Although Ashwell is included in the Royston Guide District, we understand that the customary invitation to take part will go to Letchworth & Baldock Guides.

"DEAR CO-ORDINATOR:

Having just returned from the B-P Scout Guild's eleventh national conference, held at Clacton on Sea this year, I thought you would like to know that the Guild as a whole is stronger than ever, and having very nice co-operation from the Boy Scouts Association.

All the lecturers at the conference were qualified speakers, including a member of the national committee for Rover Scouting.

The theme throughout the weekend was "The Missing Link". In conclusion, this was summed up in that the 'active' and 'non-active' Scouting carried out by Scouters and supporters respectively, is now termed in the Movement as 'uniformed' and 'non-uniformed' Scouting. I would like to stress the fact that throughout the country we in the B-P Guild want to recruit younger members, and we are very anxious for Senior Scouts and Rovers to join.

You will be interested to know that a number of Guild members recently demolished a prefabricated building that had been used as a bank at Notting Hill Gate, and rebuilt it in Gilwell Park as the Guild's own hut, which Guildsmen and their families will be welcome to use any time they want to camp there.

DOUGLAS JAMES
Chairman,
Letchworth-& District
B-P Guild."

49 Norton Road

LONG TROUSERS

As readers of "The Scouter" will already know, the amendments to POR about Senior and Rover uniform are now published.

They come into operation on All Saints Day, which is probably significant. Long trousers may then be worn according to the following conditions:

ONLY by Senior Scouts or Rover Scouts, and their Scouters;

ONLY if they are of the HQ approved pattern and shade (lovat or dark blue);

ONLY when and if all members of the Senior Scout troop, Senior Scout patrol or Rover crew all wear the same at the same time.

So if you should ever see a Boy Scout or Wolf Cub in long trousers, or any member of the movement in grey or khaki slacks, or blue jeans, or black jeans, you will know that they are not in uniform.

NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

A joint campaign is being organized from 30 October to 4 November by the Fire Protection Association and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, with the full support of the Home Office and Ministry of Labour.

Local fire authorities will be responsible for the local organization of the week, which will include fire prevention exhibitions, poster displays, the opening of fire stations to the public, distribution of the "Fire Prevention-Code" to homes, and a poster competition for children under 15.

This is a week to which the Boy Scouts Association can contribute, and participation by Scout Groups has the full support of the Committee of the Council. Information concerning local arrangements can be obtained from local fire officers, but Scouters should consult the DC before making a direct approach, so that any participation by Scout Groups is properly co-ordinated.

(From "The Scouter")

NATIONAL CENSUS 1961

There were 245,034 Wolf Cubs - that is, 2,022 more than last year!

There were 210,801 Boy Scouts aged 10 to 14 - a decrease of 5,694.

Senior Scouts and Scouts over 15 went down by 1,360 to 51,711.

Rovers added 654, making a total of 9,035, including 1,355 in District Rover Crews.

168 Scouters were also in District Rover Crews, out of a total of 56,750 - an increase of 67 over 1960.

11,355 Cub Packs and 11,192 Scout Troops are both record figures, but the number of Senior Troops or Patrols dropped by 353 to 4,690. With a total of 1,695 Rover Crews, the increase of 148 was the largest for six years.

The average number of Scouters per Group is 4.68, compared with 4.71 last year. There was one Scouter for every 9.1 boys, compared with 9.2 last year.

Of all the Scouts from 10 to 18, 10.5% had first-class, and 1.66% were Queen's Scouts.

Hertfordshire recently reported a 25% increase in the number of Rovers in the County.

ICKNIELD SHIELD 1961 RESULTS

Final scores were as follows (maximum points were 150):-

1	Team B (1L).....	132 points
2	.... H (3L Kingfishers)...	127½
3	.... F (3L Eagles).....	127
4	.... D (2L).....	124
5	.... E (2B).....	123½
6	.... A (7L).....	120

Comments of the respective PLs afterwards were: "Lot better than last year"; "Couldn't be better, but could be longer"; "Bigger sites would help"; "We'd prefer a field without cows"; "Can't improve it"; "It should be longer". Now, what about the Winter Patrol Contest for the B-P Guild Cup?

A National Rover Moot is to be held at Walesby Forest on 7 and 8 July 1962.

SEPTEMBER 1961

29 1L-3L-1W camp reunion, . parents' evening and showing of District Newsreel, DHQ
29 to 1'October : Hertfordshire Senior Scout Gathering, Greys, Royston

OCTOBER 1961

- 7 B-P Guild visit to Baden-Powell House, Kensington (postponed from 2 September):
four seats on the coach are still available at the time of going to press:
please see Mr James (49 Norton Road, Letchworth 1726).
- 7 Guide LA jumble sale
- 7 Rover-Ranger dance, St Paul's hall, 7.30-11.30: 3s. including refreshments
- 9 Guide and Brownie badge lists to be in
- 12 Trefoil Guild: Active Guiding and its place in the world today, by Mrs Gilbertson, DC Hitchin, Ranger hut, 7.45
- 14-15 County Scouters' conference, Welwyn Garden City (see page 1)
- 16 Despatch Rider badge tests, 1B HQ, 7.30 (see page 2)
- 21-22 Cub Wood Badge preliminary training course, Bishops Stortford (see CO-ORDINATOR 28)
- 21-22 Scout Wood Badge preliminary training course, first half, Hemel Hempstead (see CO-ORDINATOR 28)
- 22 YAC Youth Sunday is CANCELLED
- 27 Rover-Ranger get-together, Phasels Wood
- 27-29 Residential houseparty for Rangers, Cadets over 16 and Rovers, Baden-Powell House, Kensington
- 28-29 Pothunters' Trophy contest for Senior Scouts and Scouts over 15 in Letchworth and Baldock District, beginning DHQ 10 p.m., ending about 7 a.m.
- 29 British Summer Time ends; 2 a.m.
- 30 to 4 November : National Fire Prevention Week (see page 3)

NOVEMBER 1961

- 1 Last items in, please, for CO-ORDINATOR 30
- 4 (provisional) 1A invites you to fireworks and food round the fire
- 4 Rover-Ranger dance, St Paul's hall, 7.50-11.30: 3s. including refreshments
- 4-5 Scout Wood Badge preliminary training course, second half, Hemel Hempstead (see CO-ORDINATOR 28)
- 5 Distribution of CO-ORDINATOR 30
- 6 LA Executive Committee, DHQ, 8.0 : ALL SCOUTER AND LAY MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE
- 8 Chief Scout's reception for Queen's Scouts, Baden-Powell House, Kensington
- 9 Trefoil Guild : talk by Miss Holder, county recorder: Ranger hut, 7.45
- 11 and 12 : First-class test weekend (see page 1)
- 13 Girl Guide Local Association Annual General Meeting, Church Rooms. Commerce Avenue, Letchworth, 7.30 (see page 2)
- 19 Scout Wood Badge preliminary training course, first of three days, DHQ
- 25 Rover-Ranger dance, St Paul's hall, 7.30-11.30 : 3s. including refreshments
- 25-26 Cub Wood Badge preliminary training course, St Albans (see CO-ORDINATOR 28)
- 26 Scout Wood Badge preliminary training course, second of three days, DHQ
- 27 to 9 December : London Gang Show, Golders Green Hippodrome

DECEMBER 1961

- 3 Scout Wood Badge preliminary training course, last of three days, DHQ
- 8-10 PLs' and PSs' training weekend, DHQ (see page 1)
- 26 to 4 January : County Senior winter expedition (see page 2)

ROVING INTO BEDFORDSHIRE

Extract from the report of the Hertfordshire Rover Scout Sectional Committee, 7.9.61:-

"The suggested joint Beds./Herts, week-end camp met with the qualified approval of the Committee, but there seemed to be a strong feeling against holding it at Easter. The Chairman recommended that two Letchworth Rover leaders Max Vines and Roland Millbank be appointed to explore the matter and report back at the next meeting. The Committee approved his idea and choice, and the two will be briefed."

We hear (among other things) that they have been so briefed.

SWIMMING SPORTS

Results were announced in the local press on 8 September, but a subsequent scrutiny of the rules showed that one had unfortunately been overlooked. The Scout relays must be done by three different boys, whether you have three or not! It was a genuine error, with no intention to deceive, and apologies have been expressed all round. The scores for the Scout relays have been washed out, and in consequence both 3L and 1L had an equal number of points in the total. It has therefore been agreed that each of these troops shall hold the swimming shield for six months.