Free to officials, $32\frac{1}{2}p$ annually to subscribers. News and subscriptions to the District Public Relations Officer, 80 Spring Road, Letchworth - by 25 March for next month, please!

PROPER PATROLS

The Jim Northover Memorial Shield having been properly presented to Ashwell's Kingfishers by David Northover (GSL 1 Potton) on 22 February, the battle is on for this Greatest Patrol trophy for 1977. Positions and points after February's brisk meeting of the District PLs' Council are thus:

OT (THE DISCITCE ITS COUNCIL					
1	BUFFALO 1-3L82					
2	BULLDOG 8L(S)56					
3	EAGLE 1-3L28					
4	KESTREL 8L(T)25					
5	WOLF 1A22					
6	PANTHER 8L(5)7					
7	KINGFISHER 1A5½					
8	FALCON 8L(T)4					
9	TIGER 4L3					
10	BULLDOG 4L					
11	Buffalo 4L, Buffalo					
	8L(S), Hawk 8L(T) and					
	Lion 8L(S)2					
15	Cobra 7L, Eagle 7L and					
	Peewit lAl					
***/	Any PL wanting to know					
how	to score in this game					
should see his Group Public						
Relations Officer who has						
the	revised copy of the					
-						

JUST FOR FUN

rules.

RESOLVED at the Pack and Troop Scouters' Council on, 17 February, and RATIFIED by the District PLs' Council on 24-February, the points to qualify for the Howes Trophy will now be assessed slightly differently. As before, all points won by a Group in all District competitions will be added together annually in the Just For Fun league, but where Groups have more than one Pack or Troop, each pack will have a combined total with each troop (and vice versa), thus giving sixteen separate headings in the table to qualify for the Howes Trophy. In each of these headings, one point for attendance will be added for each member of a team, and also any points

DISTRICT CUB FOOTBALL

We have now reached the final stages of the 1976-1977 football competition. To date, the matches have produced goals by the dozen. Already it would seem that the championship will be decided between the Eighth Dorians, Ashwell, and Fourth Cavaliers, with Seventh, Tenth or Aeolians as possible challengers.

The league t	able	comp	iled	on	10	Febr	uary was	as follows
	P	W	D	L		For	Against	Points
8L Dorians	7	5	2	-		46	10	12
1 Ashwell	6	5	1	-		55	6	11
4 Cavaliers	6	5	1	-		37	6	11
7 Letchworth	6	2	4	-		29	18	8
10 Letchworth	5	3	-	2		36	9	6
8L Aeolians	5	3	-	2		21	12	6
5 Letchworth	7	1	2	4		8	17	4
1-3 Letchworth.	5	2	-	3		12	34	4
lB Knights	5	1	-	4		27	22	2
4L Grenadiers	6	-	-	6		8	70	0
4L Musketeers	6	-	-	6		0	75	0

One note of disappointment has been the withdrawal of First Baldock Templars from the competition. The decision was taken following difficulties in fielding a regular team. Let us hope that this setback will be temporary and that we shall see the Templars (and of course Second Baldock) in action again next season. All matches involving the Templars are declared void.

D.J. MUNSON (League Secretary)

won by adults in contests such as the Eaves Trophy for arts and crafts. As no District contests have yet taken place this year, all 16 headings are so far equal with 0 points, thus:

- 1A Troop+Pack
- 1B Troop+Knights
- 1B Troop+Templars
- 2B Troop+Pack
- CH Unit
- 1-3L Troop+Pack
- 4L Troop+Cavaliers
- AT Trees | Comment one
- 4L Troop+Grenadiers
- 4L Troop-Musketeers
 5L Troop+Pack
- 7L Troop+Pack
- 8L Spartans+Aeolians
- 8L Spartans+Dorians
- 8L Trojans+Aeolians
- 8L Trojans+Dorians
- 10L Troop+Pack

And may the best men win!

SCOUT QUIZ

The Hall Trophy contest 1977 is under way. <u>First round</u> matches <u>PLAYED</u>:

1A...26½ v. 8L(S)"B"...28

First round FIXTURES:

7L v. 2B"B" on 4 March
7L v. 8L(S)"A" on 11 March

Matches PENDING

1-3L v. 5L 1-3L v. 1B 5L v. 1B 2B"A" v. 1A

2B"A" v. 8L(S)"B"

10L v. 8L(T) 10L v. 4L

8L(T) v. 4L

8L(S)"A" v. 2B"B"

Troops are asked to make these-fixtures and inform KJ so that there is time for the second rounds before the final on 10 May. Teams are of four Scouts, two of whom must be under 13 years of age.

ALL ABOUT LEADER TRAINING

Congratulations to Judy Collins and Peter Norton, who completed their GSL's and Commissioner's basic training; to Wendy Boakes (1B), Michael Balls and Glenda Bozwood-Davies (2B), Maralyn Duxbury (5L) and Sylvia Eely (7L) who have all completed their Cub Scout basic leader training.

The Pack Holiday course for 25-27-March. at Well End is now full. For disappointed Leaders, an additional course has been arranged for 9-11 September, in place-of a specialist course.

* * *.

The Expedition Planning course on 21-23 October will be held at Rickmansworth and not Well End. It is open to all Leaders and Venture Scouts over 18 who are involved in planning expeditions in this country or abroad.

* * *.

An enquiry has been received regarding the pins which are presented after the completion of a general information and basic training course. The tie pin replaced the cloth emblem in 1971, and anyone entitled to wear one can only obtain it through the training administrators for the cost of, sixtypence. Normally the cost is included in the course fee. Anyone wishing to obtain one can contact Colin Phillips, 29 Haselfoot, Letchworth, with £0.60, and he will make the necessary arrangements.

letchworth North & Stotfold Guiders

- 5 District jumble sale, St George's hall
- 5 Promise training (Guiders and Commissioners)
- 8 Trefoil Guild
- 11-12 "NORTHERN LIGHTS"
- 15 District'Guiders' meeting, 7.30, DHQ,
- 16. Paper collection (9L Guides)
- 18-19 "NORTHERN LIGHTS"
- 30 Annual census

APRIL

- 1-3 District Scout and Guide weekend at Coetmor Mill, Gwynedd
- 1-2 Art and craft exhibition, Highfield
 School
- 16. Fund raising stall
- 19 District Guiders' meeting
- 20 Paper collection (11L Guides)
- 22-24 Guiders' residential training weekend at Waddow, Lancashire
- 24 St George's Day parade at Baldock
- 29-1 May: Weekend at Coetmor Mill for Scouts and Guides who were at Sion '76
- 30 Litter "pick-up", Letchworth town centre

GOOD NEWS ABOUT MONEY

MEMBERSHIP FEES WILL REMAIN THE SAME AS LAST YEAR. - namely, £2.10 a head. This is made up as follows:

 Headquarters
 £ 1.25

 County
 0.40

 District
 0.45

 £ 2.10

AT THE REQUEST OF THE GROUP CHAIRMEN, a meeting open to all Group Treasurers has been arranged by the District Finance Subcommittee. This will be at DHQ, Icknield Way, Letchworth, at 8.15 pm on Thursday 31 March.

Subjects to be covered will include investments, insurance; find raising, etc. If any Group Treasurer cannot make it that night, we hope he or she will send another representative from the Group Council. The meeting is not restricted, however, all interested persons being most welcome to come and ask questions.

Baldock Guiders

Three important dates to remember in the second half of March:

FRIDAY 18 The headquarters Fundraising Committee presents a "SINGALONG" in the Bull's Head Pavilion (not in the Bull's Head itself), Church Street, from 8 till 11 pm. Tickets are £0.60, obtainable from Mrs West.

SATURDAY 19 County annual general meeting at County Hall, Hertford, 3 pm. Anyone who has transport problems, please contact Eileen Marshall, or see the train timetable as follows:

Baldock 1325 Hitchin 1356 Hertford North 1417 1902

SATURDAY 26 District Handcraft Competition at the Bowls Pavilion, Avenue Park. Handing-in starts at 9 am, judging at 11 am, and the show is open to visitors from 2 to 4 pm.

Letchworth South Guiders

<u>MARCI</u>

- 13 Canoe training, Hertford
- 18-20 County weekend at Coetmor Mill
- 19 County AGM, Hertford

APRIL

- 1-2 Arts and crafts competition, Highfield School
- 5 Guiders' meeting

WELL, WELL!

Look at that! Two pages full and still more to come.

OPERATION SURVIVAL

More than a year has passed since the rules were drawn up for the Whalebone Trophy contest for 1976 - OPERATION SURVIVAL. Owing to the fire danger in the summer drought, arrangements had to be put off, and new application forms were circulated in the autumn, with the date newly fixed for 16-17 APRIL 1977.

At the request of the District Patrol Leaders' Council, we now reprint the rules as finally amended.

The purpose of the competition is for teams to survive in reasonable comfort for a period of 44 hours, using the limited equipment allowed in the rules.

- (1) Teams shall comprise three Scouts from the same troop, one of whom must be 14 years old, or 13 years old and holding the Advanced Scout Standard, but not having reached the sixteenth birthday. The minimum requirement of the other two is that they must be 12 years old and hold the Scout Standard.
- (2) All Scouts wishing to take part in the competition Must have the written permission of their parents or guardian and Scout Leader.
- (3) Each Scout will be allowed the following equipment:
- (a) The clothing he is wearing, to consist of a maximum of underclothes (or shorts and singlet), shirt, trousers, socks, boots, sweater or pullover, hat, top garment such as anorak or parka, and waterproof.
- (b) A clasp knife having no more than two blades or a sheath knife with a blade up to five inches long.
- (c) A survival kit comprising as many items as can be packed into a standard 2 oz. tobacco tin, the choice of items being entirely up to the individual concerned.
- (d) No other equipment shall be carried in pockets, except two handkerchiefs.(4) Each team will be expected to carry out
- the following activities during the 44 hours and will be judged accordingly:
- (a) Build a shelter from natural materials capable of providing reasonable protection for the team from the elements.
 - (b) Light a fire and maintain it.
 - (c) Cook at least two meals (see rule 7).
- (d) Make a signalling torch for attracting the attention of would-be rescuers.
- (e) Make and demonstrate on a target range provided by the judges, a hunting weapon capable of use against birds, small mammals, or fish.
- (5) Teams will be judged by a team of three judges chosen from outside Letchworth and Baldock District, and the competition will be supervised by a Camp Warden appointed by the District Scout Leaders' Council, plus

a team of helpers. Each competitor is required to deposit with the Camp Warden at the start of tho competition the following items:

- (a) a sleeping bag
- (b) a complete change of clothes including underclothes, and his complete Scout uniform.

To ensure proper hygiene the Camp Warden will provide earth latrines etc. for all those taking part in the competition, and will also provide a supply of drinking water and first aid facilities.

- (6) The judges will award points under the following headings;
 - (a) Organization and team spirit
 - (b) Soundness of shelter
 - (c) Lighting and maintaining fire
 - (d) Cooking of meals
 - (e) Signalling torches
- (f) Ingenuity and suitability of survival kit
 - (g) Target practice.
- (7) Each team will be provided by the judges with the same quantity of raw materials for one meal, to be cooked in any way they choose.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Discussing the County Commissioner's "target" of 20 hours public service for Jubilee Year, the joint Scouters' Councilon 17 February were told that little help is coming from North Hertfordshire District Council. It is therefore up to all Loaders (and this can include PLs and Sixers) to look for the opportunities in which Scouts and Cubs can carry out good turns to the community.

And for this year at least, we are asked not to be over-modest about these good turns. "Visible" service can be of lasting benefit to the movement, so a certain amount of the right publicity is desirable. If you have a project on the way, please contact the DC or the District Public Relations Officer in good time.

It must be remembered that no member of the Scout movement (except in a purely private capacity) is permitted to collect money by selling flags or anything else, for whatever cause. One special exception is to be made for Venture Scouts on the Jubilee flag day this year.

Within three areas of Letchworth (5L, 8L and now 4L zones) valuable help is being done delivering newsletters for the Good Neighbours Association. More opportunities may be found by asking Letchworth Council of Social Service: apply to Mrs Betty Tollafield at the Gernon Road office (telephone 3242).

The Scout Shop has MOVED!

LETCHWORTH & BtLDOCK SCOUT SHOP IS NOW OPEN FROM 7 TO 8 PM EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY IN

SCOUT DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS Icknield Way, Letchworth

Until the small cards are reprinted with a new location map, you may find it useful to distribute the enclosed slips to parents of new recruits.

By coincidence, "Mr Scout Shop", Eric Oldham, will also be moving soon from 77 Wilbury Road to a new address which will not be convenient for the deliveries of supplies such as have arrived there for the past nine years.

We are therefore appealing urgently for a new "receiving depot" - an address in Letchworth where there might be someone at home most days to take in parcel deliveries and hold them for a day or so till they are transferred to stock in DHQ, Any offers, please? Letchworth 3353.

BADGE EXAMINERS

Mr Chris Page, 17 Turpins Way, Baldock, is prepared to act as examiner for Cubs who choose ASTRONOMY as their subject for the Hobbies badge.

Anyone else with suitable qualifications in any badge subject Would be most welcome to join the official District list. Have a word with your nearest ADC.

"FRIENDS OF SCOU·TING"

Dinner & Dance

takes place on Wednesday 23 March 1977 at the JOHN GOODENDAY CENTRE
Park Drive Baldock

Tickets at £4 are still available from Mrs Doreen Eaves, 47 Norton Road, Letchworth (3564). Don't miss THE social event of the year!

***BOOK THIS DATE NOW!

FRIDAY 1 JULY 1977

 $8\ \mathrm{pm}$ till midnight: Champion Hills VSU announce another of their highly popular

BARN DANCES

in the genuine Barn at Newnham in the heart of the Champion Hills, to the music of the STRAW PLAITERS

Bunches of Dates

Is your copy of the District Calendar up to date? Is your Group programme planned for the summer? Have you let the District know the dates of your AGM, jumble sale, bazaar, to avoid clashing with other people's events? That is what CO-ORDINATOR is for. Please use it.

MARCH 1977

- 4 Hall Trophy; 7L v 2B"B", St Thomas's, 1930
- 8 District Executive Committee, DHQ, 2015
- 10 Water activities "surgery", DHQ, after Scout Shop
- 11 Hall Trophy; 7L v 8L(S)"A", St Thomas's, 1900
- 13 DISTRICT CYCLOCROSS, east of Ashwell: a record entry may mean re-timing of starts all Leaders are being informed as soon as possible. Any queries to Jeff Robson, Letchworth 4954.
- 14 District Pack Scouters' Council open to ACSLs, not just Akelas! - St Paul's church rooms, 2015
- 17 Patrol Leaders' training course; session
 1: details are being sent to all those
 who have applied
- 20 Pack Scouters' "refresher" day has been postponed
- 22 2B Group annual general meeting has been postponed
- 23 "FRIENDS OF SCOUTING" DINNER AND DANCE, John Goodenday Centre (see column 1)
- 24 District Troop Scouters' Council, DHQ, 2015
- 25 LAST ITEMS IN, PLEASE, FOR CO-ORDINATOR 215
- 25-27 Patrol Leaders' training course: session 2
- 29 CO-ORDINATOR and HSG Group bundles ready for delivery, Letchworth Library (enquiries desk) from 0930
- 31 District Patrol Leaders' Council, 1B HQ, Park Drive, 2000
- 31 Finance Committee meets Group Treasurers, DHQ, 2015

APRIL 1977

- Handing-in of entries for the Plinston Trophy exhibition, Highfield School, 1900-2100
- 2 Plinston Trophy exhibition, Ilighfield School: handing-in of perishable items, 0930-1030; public exhibition, 1300-1530.
- 15-17 "OPERATION SURVIVAL" (see page 3)
- 15-17 Venture Scout and Ranger Guide Leaders' introductory training course
- 18 10L Group annual general meeting, Jackmans Community Centre, 1900
- 24 SAINT GEORGE'S DAY PARADE, Baldock
- 26 5L Group annual general meeting, 1900
- 27 1-3L Group annual general meeting, 1900