



CO-ORDINATOR

No.330

February 1988.

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK
DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL.

Free to Leaders and Group Officers: £1.20 annually to others.



VENTURE SCOUTS HAVE COME OF AGE

This year of 1988 is to be a very special one for Venture Scouts, not only will we be celebrating our 21st Birthday, but we will also be introducing our new improved Training Programme and raising funds for the National Venture Scout Project for Sherpa '88.

Let's look at the Birthday celebration plans, as these will almost certainly involve all of the District in some way. Each Unit in the Country has received a Birthday Pack containing certain challenges set by Headquarters. Those of you who attended last year's AGM may remember the County Commissioner's allusions to Venture Scouts asking help this year in opening doors. Well these challenges are the doors we have to open. We are

being asked to do such things as spend 21 hours in a hike tent in a prominent position, to be involved in a District celebration, to look at the problems of alcohol abuse, to attend a County celebration and to take part in a sponsored Everest Climb.

The actual weekend of our Birthday - October 1st - the District will be attending the County Venture Scout's Gathering. During this weekend the formal celebrations will occur. At County level too a Party is being organised for Sunday July 10th at Welwyn Garden City. All Districts are being invited to make their way there with some float-or display depicting one of the twenty one years. At Welwyn we hope to have a truly silly Party atmosphere with balloons, jelly, party games and dancing.

As a District we are planning our event for Saturday 23 April when I hope that Venture Scouts will be very noticeable in the towns and villages of the District.

Throughout this year Venture Scouts will be able to wear the special commemorative badge.

So much for the celebrations. The other big challenge we have is to complete the sponsored climb of Everest. This is for Sherpa '88, a fund that British Venture Scouts have been asked to support by Sir Edmund Hilary. Its aims are to raise funds for his work with the Sherpa people in Nepal, to enable them to build hospitals and schools. So if you see Venture Scouts wandering around with their noses in the air, they are only looking for a likely summit to scale within the District.

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The introduction of the new Training Programme makes this year even more special. There are no radical changes, just a few refinements. The main one being the introduction of a Leadership section in both Venture Scout Award and Queens Scout Award. In the former the leadership is encouraged within the Unit while in the latter it is within the community or Scouting. We could be the answer or cause of many a Leader's prayer.

Finally I should like to take this opportunity of wishing all our Venture Scouts a very happy and successful Birthday Year.

Rosemary Charsley
ADC Venture Scouts.

SECRETARY'S SPOT

Insurance

The District has renewed the following insurance policies:-

- a) Extension of the Personal Accident and Medical Expenses Policy for supporters
- b) Supplementary Personal Accident Insurance (Commissioners, Scouters, Administrators, Instructors, Advisers, Scout Fellowship, Venture Scouts not in full-time education).

Scout HQ Insurance Department and the District Secretary should be informed immediately of any incident likely to give rise to a claim under these policies.

Annual Census 1988

Group secretaries will soon be receiving Annual-Census forms. It would be helpful if you would start thinking about the information required so that the forms can be completed quickly and returned to County on time.

GROUP ADMINISTRATORS

There will be a meeting for Group Administrators (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) at Nortonbury on Thursday 25 February at 8.00 pm.

We hope as many people as possible will be able to come along to meet members of the District Executive and the District Team.

We would like to discuss topics such as the District organisation, the role of a Group Executive, insurance, accounts and the Annual General Meeting.

CO-ORDINATOR

We still require an Editor. In the meantime members of the District Executive have volunteered to help with its production and distribution. The HSG is available on the 25th of each month and it is intended to bring the publication date for Co-ordinator forward so that it can be distributed during the last weekend of each month. Please pass it on quickly when it reaches the Groups so that information reaches everyone in time. If you have any information you want circulating throughout the District we would be pleased to distribute it with Co-ordinator.

WARRANTS

Warrants have been presented to:

Sheila Staines	Beaver Leader	1st Baldock
June Maddox	Beaver Leader	1st Baldock
John Waldrige	Assistant Scout Leader	1/3rd Letchworth

RECOMMENDED READING

Anyone involved in the organisation of Scouting would find "The Scout Group – a handbook for Group Scout Leaders and Group Administrators" by John Deft invaluable reading. It deals with the main matters covered by POR in a most readable manner and is packed with good ideas and practical advice. It is available from Scout Shops Limited – price £2.25.

MINIBUS PERMIT

New rules became effective on August 13, 1987. Existing permits will continue to be valid in respect of the vehicles for which they were issued until these vehicles are disposed of. New permits will no longer be restricted to one particular vehicle. Each disc may be displayed and used on any one vehicle in the ownership of, or in temporary hire of that Group. The permits will be issued to a Scout Group or District and remain valid until that Unit ceases to exist.

SCOUT SHOP

Thanks to the volunteers who have come forward to help at the Scout Shop. However, we still do not have the solution which we are seeking in the form of a rota of people willing to help one evening a month, so if there are any more volunteers we would still like to hear from you.

John Moys has written to all Groups and other interested parties about long terms plans for the shop. Please reply to John promptly with your ideas.

SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

A visit to the St Albans Gang Show has been arranged for Thursday 4 February and for the more energetic there is an all-swingin' do-si-doin' fund-raisin' Barn Dance at St Thomas' Hall on Saturday 27 February. In March we hope to go behind the scenes at Sainsbury's vast depot at Buntingford.

If you are interested in any of these, talk, write, phone or semaphore to Chairman, Laurie without delay.

The younger section of the Fellowship have appointed the following officers:

Chairman	Mark Simmons
Secretary	Graham Driver
Treasurer	Andrew Smith

VALENTINE'S DISCO

7th Letchworth Scouts

Valentine's Disco

to be held on Friday, 12 February, 1988 at
St Thomas's Youth Hall, Bedford Road
from 7.30 to 9.30 pm

Admission 50p (incl light refreshments) Entry by ticket only
from: Richard Young, tel: 684608 (before 7 pm)
(Please bring any records or tapes we may be able to play)

FOR SALE

1 pair of Walking Boots - size 10 - Very good condition, including laces, £10.
contact: Richard Young (7th Letchworth) 684608.(before 7 pm)

BEAVERS

Alison Wilson (ADC Beavers) has held the first District Meeting for Beaver Leaders. They hope to have an afternoon at Nortonbury in April and to attend the Wellend Open Day. Visits are also planned to the Gang Show and Cub Camp.

Numbers in Beavers are rising fast and more leaders are urgently required.

Cyclo-Cross Trophy

10th Letchworth were the proud winners of the trophy this year, however, their excitement has turned to disappointment as they have yet to receive the trophy. If your group is holding this trophy please let Ann Drew know as soon as possible.

Venture Executive Committee Training - Sunday 13 December

The District's three Venture Scout Units Executive Committees were invited to attend with the aim of showing how the Executive Committees of a Unit should be run.

Mike Mansfield the District Treasurer explained how to keep accounts, followed by Nick Smith discussing Programme Planning, Rosemary Charsley went through the roles of the Committee and the afternoon concluded with Gordon Petitt and Kevin Leadley explaining what will be happening for Venture Scouts in 1988, it being the 21st birthday of Venture scouting.

D Kemp
Chairman, 11th Venture Scout Unit

Membership Subscriptions 1988

The membership subscription for 1988 will be £7.50 (HQ £5.50; County £1.30; District 70p).

The District part of the subscription has risen by 15p. The District Executive felt that this was necessary because of increasing costs such as insurance, the uncertainty surrounding the Scout Shop and the difficulty being experienced in getting rent from Griffin Marketing for the hire of the car park at District Headquarters.

Please remember your membership subscription should be with the District Treasurer by 1 April 1988.

Cubs - Gold Arrows

The following Gold Arrows have been awarded:

Sam Potter	-	11th Letchworth
Gary Hawkins	-	11th Letchworth

District Diary

February	6 & 7	:	Cub Sixers & Seconders Weekend, Nortonbury
"	11	:	District Executive, Nortonbury
	17	:	District Scout Leaders Mtg - Nortonbury
	25	:	Group Administrators Evening, Nortonbury
	27	:	Barn Dance, St Thomas's Church
March	7	:	Group Scout Leaders Meeting, Nortonbury
	10	:	District Executive, Nortonbury
	14	:	Cub Leaders Meeting, Nortonbury
	14	:	Beaver Leaders Mtg, 34 Swift Close, Letchworth
	19 & 20	:	Ferret Trophy - Group Entry
	26	:	Cub Gold Arrow Awards : 1/3rd HQ, Icknield Way
	28	:	District Team Meeting, Nortonbury

GANG SHOW - 5th to 9th April : 7.15 pm : The Plinston Hall, Letchworth

ADVANCE BOOKING FORM

BEFORE 19/3/88

AFTER 19/3/88

Using the form below to
Mr.R.Edmett
134 Bedford Road
Letchworth
Herts SG6 4DZ
Tel (0462) 671387

In person only at
The Ticket Office
Plinston Hall
Broadway
Letchworth
Tel (0462) 672003

DISCOUNTS

To be deducted from final total.

12 to 20 tickets deduct 10%

21 or more tickets deduct 16%

Discounts only apply Tuesday to Friday inc.

When ordering by post please enclose a S.A.E.
at least 6ins by 9ins.

Please make cheques payable to Letchworth &
Baldock Gang Show.

PRICES--Adults £2.50 all shows

Children/O.A.P £1.00 all shows

LETCWORTH & BALDOCK DISTRICT GANG SHOW
IS SUPPORTING THE GREAT ORMOND STREET
CHILDRENS HOSPITAL "WISHING WELL"
APPEAL

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

Enter number of tickets required in box.	Choice 1		Choice 2		Total £
	Ad	Ch	Ad	Ch	
Tuesday 5/4/88					
Wednesday 6/4/88					
Thursday 7/4/88					
Friday 8/4/88					
Saturday 9/4/88					
LESS DISCOUNT OF%					£
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE & ENCLOSED					£

MARCH EDITION OF CO-ORDINATOR

If you have any items for the next edition please let Bob Williams have them by 19 March.