



CO-ORDINATOR

No.339

December 1988/January 89

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL.

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

1. SILVER ACORN PRESENTATION

A large gathering of Cubs, Scouts, Leaders and parents were present to see Paul Brenham, County Commissioner, present Hannah Moules with her Silver Acorn Award for "specially distinguished service" to Scouting. Hannah first took out her Warrant forty years ago and as well as being a Cub Leader she has served as ADC Cubs. The high quality of her Scouting is respected throughout the District and we are proud that she has achieved such a high award.

The evening ended in an informal manner with refreshments when Hannah cut a cake specially decorated to mark her achievement.

2. WARRANTS

The Warrants Committee has recommended Warrants for:-

Paul Boughton	-	AVSL Champion Hills
Nicola Macrae	-	AVSL Champion Hills
Neil Martin	-	AVSL Champion Hills
Margaret Coiley	-	BSL 1st Baldock
Gillian Clements	-	CSL 1st Baldock
Glenn Coiley	-	ASL 1st Baldock

We wish them success with their Scouting in the District.

We must always be on the look out for new leaders and Scout Leaders are especially required at 5th Letchworth.

3. VENTURE SCOUT AGM's

Beech Springs and Champion Hills held their AGM's in November. The Committee of both Units are to be congratulated on the success of the evenings. Both units turned out very smartly and it was impressive to hear the programme of activities undertaken by the Units as well as see the slides of their expeditions to Austria and Norway.

Marilyn Hudson (ACC Venture Scouts) was a welcome guest at Champion Hills.

Venture Scouting is very strong in the District at the moment. We have three good units. Our thanks go to Rosemary Charsley (ADC Ventures) and all the Venture Leaders.

I hope Scout Leaders will invite the Ventures to their meetings and encourage Scouts to move up.

4. GRANTS FOR WOOD BADGE TRAINING

(Extract from letter from Colin McIntyre - County Secretary)

It has at last been confirmed that GRIST Funding is available for all Scout, Venture Scout, Commissioner/GSL and tutor training up to 31st March 1989.

Training for Beaver and Cub Scout Leaders is not covered by this scheme, and it was understood from the outset that support would come from Divisional Youth and Community Committees for this range of Leader training.

These Committees which although funded by the County Council act independently. They have now, I understand, decided, because they have insufficient funds available, that they will no longer support training for those outside the Youth age range.

However, since some of our training is GRISTED Groups and Districts might consider redirecting their funds to provide a greater means of support for Beaver and Cub Leader Training.

5. CUB SCOUT QUIZ

Congratulations to all Cubs who took part in the Quiz and showed such a good knowledge of the Jungle Book and general affairs. The results were as follows:

1st:	4th Letchworth
2nd:	1st Ashwell
3rd:	1st & 3rd Letchworth
4th:	7th Letchworth
5th:	11th Letchworth
6th =	2nd Baldock
	= 12th Letchworth
	= 8th Letchworth (Dorians)
9th:	1st Baldock
10th:	8th Letchworth (Aeolians)

Thanks to Ken Johnson who once again set the questions.

6. UNIFORM

Have you seen proposals for the new Scout uniform? If not, read the November issue of "SCOUTING" which has photographs and a questionnaire for you to complete. Why not discuss it as a Group and then send in your opinions. This is your chance to influence the outcome - don't moan afterwards if you do not like the choice!

7. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS' EVENING

Thank you for attending this evening which allowed Group Executive Committee members to meet members of the District Executive, District Team and Scout Fellowship. I think it is essential for all sides to meet one another to discuss matters of common interest and improve communications.

Topics discussed included:-

- a. Supplementary Personal Accident Insurance - the increased cost of the insurance has made it impossible for the District to finance it any longer but Groups were asked to consider covering their own leaders.

A further letter concerning cover for supporters will be considered at the next District Executive.

- b. Property Insurance - Groups were reminded of the importance of this insurance. All present had adequate cover.
- c. Fire Risk - the importance of proper fire precautions was stressed.
- d. Covenants - 12th Letchworth have received £3000 in five years from the tax man because parents covenant group subscriptions. If any other Group is interested Mike Thomason would be pleased to explain how the system works.
- e. Annual Census - new arrangements for this year were explained whereby census data will be taken on 31st December 1988 and the membership subscription will be payable by 1st April 1989.
- f. Finance of Training - see Grants for Wood Badge Training.
- g. Members were reminded that all funds must pass through Group accounts and that, under no circumstances should leaders use their own accounts.
- h. An appeal was made for helpers at the Scout Shop.

8. COUNTY CAMPING SURVEY

(Trefor Salter - ACC Scouts)

1988

646 boys are due to go to a camp of 5 nights or more
37 troops plan a camp of 5 nights or more
36 camps of 3 or 4 nights are planned
180 camps of 1 or 2 nights are planned

Average camper nights per boy = 6.35

The evidence is that we are following the national trend of a reduction in the week/10 day summer camp but an increase of long week-end camps.

The 6½ nights per boy is certainly a sad reflection of the quite recent past, when boys would easily average something in the region of 11 - 15 nights each year.

9. DISTRICT DIARY

December	8	Lochearnhead committee			
	12	District team			
	21	Ashwell Carol Service			
January	11	Scout Leaders	January	16	Cub Leaders
	12	District Executive		19	GSL's
				26	General Information Course

DISTRICT DIARY 1989

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE
(2nd Thursday)

January	12
February	9
March	9
April	13
May	17 (AGM)
June	8
July	13
September	14
October	12
November	9

WARRANTS COMMITTEE
(1st Wednesday when required)

January	4
February	1
March	1
April	5
May	3
June	7
July	5
September	6
October	4
November	1

DISTRICT TEAM
(3rd Monday)

March	20
June	19
Sept.	18
Dec.	11

BEAVER LEADERS
(1st Monday)

February	6
May	1
October	2

CUB LEADERS
(2nd Monday)

January	16
March	13
May	8
June	5
July	17
September	11
November	13

SCOUT LEADERS
(2nd Wednesday)

January	11
April	12
July	12
October	11

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS

March	23
November	16

GENERAL INFORMATION COURSES

January	26
May	25
September	27

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS
(3rd Thursday)

January	19
April	20
July	20
October	19

CO-ORDINATOR: Material to Editor by 20th of the month.