



CO-ORDINATOR

DECEMBER 1989. No. 349

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK
DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL.

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

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

THE GREEN BERET CHALLENGE

After a 45 minute journey we arrived at Lees Wood, The atmosphere was electric. We found our site and explored. The first thought that entered our minds was 'Mayhem', people everywhere. We were surrounded by a forest of tents. After a filling supper and a round of cards we hit the sack. The Competition started at eight o'clock. It began with an assault course, we followed the trail through several bases including an aerial runway, tree walk and a noisy, sludgy, claustrophobic tunnel. We completed with ease. Washed and recuperated, we commenced with the Orienteering exercise. Easy as it seemed, it soon proved to be a challenging experience. Later that evening there was a night exercise. With masses of people we received our instructions and started. We completed the course, which could have been improved with a little imagination. The presentation followed later that morning. We all listened anxiously as the results were announced. We were amazed to find that we had come in the top FIFTEEN out of 92 teams. We stood around congratulating each other as we received our Certificate. All in all it was a riveting weekend, enjoyed by all.

PETER YOUNG. THE 7th. LETCHWORTH 'B' TEAM

ANNUAL CENSUS 1990

This year's Census figures must be sent to the County Secretary by 9th. February 1990. It would help our District Secretary if all forms could be returned to her by 20th. January. It does not take long to complete a census form - please do not delay completing it once you have received it.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION 1990

This year's Membership Subscription will be £9.70 per head. It is made up as follows :-

National	£6.20
County	£1.65
District	£0.85
Training Levy	£1.00
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	£9.70

The Training Levy has been imposed by the County to effect the withdrawal of Government financial support for the training of voluntary youth leaders. This levy will enable County to offer all Leader Training free of charge. It is likely that the size of this levy will be considerably lower in future years.

Groups should pay their subscriptions to the District Treasurer by 17th.March. (There will be a 30p. rebate on all membership subscriptions reaching Headquarters by 23rd. April 1990)

GROUP ADMINISTRATOR'S MEETING

I would like to thank everyone who attended this meeting. It is a pity that all Groups were not represented, because we were able to have useful discussions on a range of matters including insurance, finance, legal liability, the Community Charge and the recruitment and training of leaders. Notes of the meeting will be circulated to all Groups. Please bring them to the attention of your Group Executive Committee at its next meeting.

VENTURE SCOUT A.G.M.'S.

Beech Springs and Champion Hills have recently held their A.G.M.s and it was good to have Marilyn Hudson (A.C.C. Venture Scouts) and John Moys (District Chairman) with us on both occasions.

Both Units are to be congratulated on the activities which they reported and for using the occasion to induct new members.

A number of presentations were made at Beech Springs. Rosemary Charsley (A.D.C Ventures) and Julian Macdonald (V.S. Leader) received their Wood Badges, and Karen Woodman received her Queen's Scout Award.

Rosemary has now handed the Unit over to Julian. She was thanked for her work with the Unit and a presentation was made to her.

Champion Hills have gained a reputation for the quality of their A.G.M.s and this year's was no exception. The members of the Unit are to be congratulated on the organisation, conduct and quality of reports presented at the meeting.

REMEMBERANCE DAY

I would like to thank Champion Hills V.S.U. for providing a colour party at the Town Rememberance Day Parade and Service.

HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE - SCHOOLS LIAISON OFFICER.

P.C. Duncan Askew is the Schools Liaison Officer for Stevenage and North Herts. As an extension of his work, Duncan would be willing to visit Venture Units to discuss police work with them. He can be contacted at Stevenage Police Station.

CUB SCOUT - DISTRICT QUIZ

This was very successful, we decided to go back a few years and reintroduce sounds, slides and feely bags. The Cubs who were not being asked questions were also kept interested watching and listening. We were grateful to Joan Ludford from the Fellowship who set the questions. There were only 7 points between the winners and the last place. After the questions were over we had a tie, and after the tie break it was still a tie. It was decided that 11th. Letchworth and 12th. Letchworth should have the trophy (which was presented by Nancy Baker) for six months each.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

We are most grateful to the Scouts for delivery of our Newsletters. We do get complaints from time to time that people do not get their Newsletters. Occasionally this is forgetfulness but not always. I wonder if it could be impressed on the boys that they are a sort of lifeline between us and the Blind person, and the delivery of the Newsletter is extremely important. Please also offer our appreciation of their efforts.

Shirley Roos. Assistant to the Secretary.

WATER ACTIVITIES AUTHORISATION SCHEME

The Scout Association has amended its regulations for the authorisation of Water Activities to bring them into line with those relating to Moors, Hills and Mountain Activities and Camping Activities.

Therefore, in future, the Application Form must be sent to the District Commissioner for confirmation that the applicant is a suitable person to be in charge of young people in a potentially hazardous activity. The form will then be passed on to the County Water Activities Adviser for an assessment of the level of authorisation to be granted. Final authorisation is the responsibility of the District Commissioner.

Current Charge Certificates will be honoured until their expiry date. For further information please contact our District Water Activities Adviser.

JOHN TOMKINS. 36 NORTON WAY SOUTH. LETCHWORTH- 671402

SCOUTS GO FOR A MILLION - 14th. DECEMBER, NORTONBURY

All Groups have received the Presentation Pack. This meeting will discuss the implementation of the Programme.

I expect ALL Troops to be represented and ideally all G.S.L.s and Scout Leaders should be present.

Please discuss the presentation material within your Troop before their meeting.

INITIAL TRAINING COURSES 1990

Courses for new leaders will take place in the District on the following dates :-

15th. February / 29th. March

24th. May / 5th. July

17th. October / 28th. November

DISTRICT DIARY

DECEMBER

6th. Warrant Committee Nortonbury

11th. District Team Nortonbury

14th. Scouts Go For A Million. Nortonbury

14th. Cub Scout Carol Singing in the Town - 6.30 - 7.30pm. then on to Howard Hall to sing for the Blind until 8.15p.

JANUARY

3rd. Warrants Committee Nortonbury

8th. Cub Leaders - 31 Lordship Lane.

11th. District Executive Nortonbury