



CO-ORDINATOR

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THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL.

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

NIGHTJAR

On Saturday night, the 27th. January a total of 14 Scout teams entered this year's District Nightjar Competition.

The 11 mile course, (some managed to walk further), was interspersed with checkpoints and special tasks, was made even more difficult due to the very heavy rain and cold winds that were experienced.

However despite the extreme conditions 8 teams finished the course, the last team arriving back at Nortonbury just before 5 am.

The winning team of Ian Wright, Peter Young, Alan Day and Ian Wilson from the 7th. Letchworth, just beat 3 teams from the 11th. Letchworth. (22 points separated the first 4 teams.)

Many thanks to the Fellowship (young and not so young), Graham Adams (CB's and mobile Zulu's) and Bob Williams for his support and getting up early on Sunday to present the Trophy.

Jim Grainger
V.S.L. Bacchus V.S.U.

FOUND AFTER NIGHTJAR

1 pair grey 'Tesco' trousers.
1 black balaclava.
1 mauve and yellow hat.

To reclaim – contact Jim Grainger. Letch. 671771

Our thanks to the Bacchus Venture Unit for organising the Competition with such enthusiasm.

SIXERS AND SECONDEES TRAINING WEEKEND

Sixers and Secondees from Letchworth, Baldock and Ashwell descended on Nortonbury for a Training Weekend.

A total of 65 boys attended over the two days, 34 on Saturday and 31 on Sunday, and Leaders from each pack helped with the training.

There were four bases, games, knots, Grand Howl and the flag ceremony, and the Link Badge.

The boys also played games to give them an opportunity to let off steam between their training sessions.

The weekend was run by Janet Hicks of 7th. Letchworth as part of her advanced training.

Our thanks to Janet for the organisation and smooth running of such an interesting event. Janet sends her thanks to all the Leaders who gave her such good support.

SCOUT QUIZ

The District Scout Fellowship is, among other things, proceeding to stir things up with the inter-troop quiz. In the first round, two matches have been played and two more are due at the time of going to press.

FIFTH LETCHWORTH were drawn away to SEVENTH on 26th. January, but took a little time to get into their stride, and so went out of the contest by 25 points to the home team's 42. The Westbury lads were Scott Rathbone (12) Carl Martin (13), Matthew Rathbone (14) and Anil Juneja (15), beaten by their Wilbury opposite numbers James Tiplady, David Ball, Ian Wilson and Vaseem Khan.

Just a week later, FIRST-THIRD LETCHWORTH had a fairly simple victory over the TWELFTH, as their visitors failed to turn up. After a hopeful wait, no message had been received, and the home team of Jefferson Walbridge(12) Howard Taylor (13), Daniel Theakstone (13) and Richard Shakeshaft (15). faced the questioning alone, and with a few bonus points to help, enjoyed a 37 - 0 victory. They will go on to meet the Seventh at a date to be agreed in March.

Before that, EIGHTH are at home to ELEVENTH LETCHWORTH on 23rd. February and a three-way quiz is fixed for the 9th. March at 1st. BALDOCK HQ., with the challengers from FIRST ASHWELL and FOURTH LETCHWORTH.

Any enquiries about the quiz arrangements can soon be dealt with by Chairman Laurie Cook at 22 Hillshott, Letchworth. (phone 674046)

Ken Johnson.

WORLD JAMBOREE 1991

The District has undertaken to sponsor two Scouts to attend the 17th. World Scout Jamboree in August 1991.

It is now time to select our participants and I am inviting nominations from Groups.

Candidates, either male or female, must be between 14 and 18 years of age at the time of the Jamboree with a record of personal commitment and achievement in Scouting and in the community.

The trip lasts just under three weeks and will cost £1650. (This includes insurance, equipment for the jamboree, uniform, a short stay in a luxury hotel in Seoul, a visit to the Korean Olympic village, UK and Korean travel, meals throughout.) The contingent will experience home hospitality in Korea and stay four or five days in Japan.

Additional expenses will be incurred as the Hertfordshire contingent will have training sessions beforehand.

The selected participants will receive financial help from the District but they will also be expected to raise funds through their own efforts.

(Details have already been circulated to G.S.L.s., Scout Leaders and Venture Scout Leaders.)

St. GEORGE'S DAY PARADE

This year's Parade and Service will be at St. Paul's Church Letchworth.

Details will be sent directly to Groups and will be reproduced in next months Co-ordinator.

PATROL LEADER TRAINING

Hitchin District Scouts have kindly extended an invitation for Scout Patrol Leaders to join their Training Course at Northern Heights Scout Camp, Elstree on 16/18th. March.

Anyone interested should contact Neil Broughton (435166) or Mervyn Templeton (670709) G.S.L.s have more details'.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS' MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 29th. March at Norton Bury commencing 8.00 pm.

These meetings provide lively discussion and enable Groups to exchange ideas and experiences - it would be good if every Group in the District was represented at the meeting.

Important items on the agenda include a showing of the "Scouts Go for a Million" video, the annual census and Membership subscription and A.G.M.s.

The A.G.M. season is nearly on us. These are a good opportunity to sell Scouting to the parents. Please ensure that they are organised in a manner which reflects well on Scouting. You should send invitations out beforehand, organise the business part of the meeting efficiently and involve your boys in some kind of show or display in order to attract parents.

IDEAS FAIR - LETCHWORTH COLLEGE - 7th. APRIL

The Scout Fellowship is organising a stand at the Ideas Fair. This will provide another opportunity to advertise Scouting and hopefully, attract some new Leaders. If you are able to help on the day or have any ideas for interesting display material, please contact the Fellowship. There will also be the opportunity to put on displays on the College stage and outdoors.

QUEEN'S SCOUT DINNER

Congratulations to Nick Charsley, Jason Urbani and Karen Woodman of Beech Springs Venture Unit, who received their Queen's Scout Certificates from Brigadier Freddie De Butts at the Annual County Dinner for Queen's Scouts.

CLIMBING WALL AT PHASELS WOOD

Hertfordshire Scouts are going to build a climbing complex at Phasels Wood. Groups throughout the County have been asked to contribute towards the cost through the sponsorship of some of the specialised climbing blocks used in the wall construction.

Please help this ambitious project which will be a great asset to Scouting in the County.

(Further details have been distributed to Groups.)

CO - EDUCATION IN SCOUTING

During the last two years a most comprehensive review of how we co-operate with our sister Movement, The Girl Guide Association, has also been taking place. A Joint Working Party has consulted widely within both Associations seeking to identify good practice and to make recommendations for the future. In the course of its review, this Working Party also gave consideration to the issue of co-education within the Scout Association.

The reports of these two Working Groups were considered by the Committee of the Council at its meeting on 31st. January, 1990. I have been asked to make you aware of the decisions relating to co-education and mixed membership which were reached at that meeting.

The cardinal point addressed by the Committee was the requirement to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's young people. The place of single sex provision for both boys and girls was affirmed and it was recognised that The Girl Guide Association play a vital part in that provision for girls. Much thought was given to the ways in which we could co-operate with them. Provision for boys in a single sex setting should continue to be an important part of Scouting.

It was also agreed that, in recognition of the overwhelming reality that today's society sees an ever-increasing coming together of the genders, there is a need for the effective provision of co-education. While there is opportunity for this through co-operation with the Girl Guides, it was agreed that young people should be enabled to choose the most suitable provision for themselves.

Mixed Venture Scouting continues to show that successful mixed Scouting is possible, and that where the option has been taken to include girls in the Venture Scout Units, it has improved the provision for boys, as well as making provision for girls: co-educational opportunities in mixed Units and co-operation in single sex Units were all required.

In summarising the debate the Chief Scout recognised these points, but he stated that in acceding to these principles it was important to realise that we have barely begun to address the practical issues involved which would arise from girls in Troops, Packs and Colonies. He believed we should advance slowly and, above all, that there must be no coercion or even a suggestion that single sex Scouting for boys is in any way second best. In view of the detailed preparatory work still to be done, there would and could be no change overnight.

The Programme and Training sub-committee has now been asked by the Committee of the Council to consider, and to make recommendations, on the detailed training implications that result from this decision. These will be announced once agreement has been reached.

A.E.N. BLACK, OBE
Chief Executive Commissioner.

DISTRICT DIARY

MARCH

3/4th.	Peak Assault
7th.	Warrant Committee
8th.	Gang Show - Plinston Hall
12th.	Beaver Leaders Meeting, Cub Leaders Meeting.
17th.	Cub Six a Side Football
17/18th.	Operation Ferret
29th.	District Administrators - Norton Bury
31st	Beaver Challenge - Norton Bury

APRIL

1st.	Gold Arrow Awards
4th.	Warrant Committee
5th.	District Executive
9th.	District Team
11th.	Scout Leaders Meeting
11th.	1st.3rd. Letchworth A.G.M.
18th.	G.S.L.s Meeting
22nd.	St. George's Day Parade - St. Paul's Church
25th.	7th. Letchworth A.G.M.