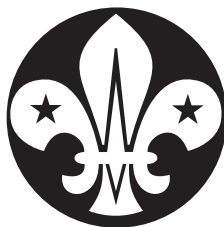


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JULY/AUGUST 1994 No.396

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN
OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK
DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

BUSY BEAVERS.

Beaver Scout Challenge Saturday 21st. May.

Weather - wet, (nice to get our aquatic event over and done with early this year!!) Six teams (one combined 1st. Baldock Wed./8th. Letchworth) took part in this years challenge at Nortonbury. We started with a general knowledge quiz - we took the opportunity of using the recently acquired porta-cabin for this - then it was cagoules on and outside for a 'mini-safari' wide game followed by a scavenger hunt. We finished with drinks and biscuits and a sing-song. All the boys displayed their usual enthusiasm despite the rain - I don't think they even noticed the wet. Well done to 1st. Baldock (Tues.) colony who went home with the Challenge Shield.

Victorian Extravaganza. Sunday 5th. June.

Eighty Beavers and thirty adults filled two coaches and travelled back in time to the County Beaver Day at Phasels Wood. The theme being 'Victoriana'. Activities included a visit to a Victorian prison, a Victorian school room, a feel at what it was like to be a chimney sweep and many more. Our own base of The Tower of London proved very popular - the boys enjoyed making 'armour helmets', Beefeater flags and the 'Tower Keep'. Many games of the time, including hopscotch and quoits were also played.

The climbing wall, the caves, Punch and Judy shows and ice creams were an added attraction.

In total there were 1300 Beavers there and they all appeared to be having a great time. I would like to say 'Thankyou' to all Leaders who helped make our base a success. I have heard many favourable comments about the ideas and all the effort.

'A Little Boys Paradise.'

On Thursday 2nd. June a coach filled with 1st. Baldock (Tues.) Beavers, their friends and families went to Cadbury World in Birmingham.

In the morning we followed the story of Chocolate from ancient times (where we tasted the spicy drink of 'chocolati' drunk by the Aztecs) to the present day (where we tasted chocolate only 20 minutes old.) We had lunch in the Cadbury themed play area and then we visited the Cadbury museum - where we saw how the town of Bournville had developed plus lots of Cadbury memorabilia - Do you remember the Aztec Bar and Amazin Raizin - and how long do you think Cadbury Cream Eggs have been around for P They were first made in 1923. Clutching bags loaded with chocolate - some bought in the shop and some freebies, we left for home - we had visited paradise in the boys eyes - but for most of the grown ups it had been an enormous test of will power!!!

Sheila Staines ADC Beavers.

SCOUT SHOP.

Help is urgently required. Peter and Ruth Baker retire at the end of this month so unless a volunteer is found to run the shop it will not re-open in September. If you are willing to help or know of someone who might be interested please contact me as soon as possible.

Bob Williams.

DISTRICT CUB SCOUT CAMP. 10/11/12th. JUNE.

Peaceful, tranquil, that was the scene at Nortonbury 6.30pm. on Friday 10th. June, but by 6.40pm. the sound of happy excited voices filled the air as Letchworth, Baldock and Ashwell Cubs gathered for their annual District Camp.

Saturday morning started early, 5.00am. when the Cubs began to wake, the sun already warming up to what was going to be a glorious day. Romans was the theme for camp, packs had decorated their sites to fit in.

Activities during the morning were making helmets, shields, tunics, pottery, firelighting and camp fire songs. The afternoon began with fun with the-Service Crew this included water games, a water slide was the highlight of the day and was much welcomed as the sun was now blazing down on us all. Anyone who came in the vicd,4ity paid by being soaked, this to the enjoyment of all the cubs.

Saturday evening, tuck shop and camp fire singing before everyone went happily to bed.

Sunday - Weather was the same as Saturday, mini-olympics was the order of the day, but the weather got the better of us and cubs were beginning to flag, so everyone went back to their sites to begin clearing up.

Our final ceremony began with two cubs from 1st. Ashwell, who will remember their last cub camp as they were invested into scouts, we wish them both good luck.

On a sad note we said goodbye to 1st. Ashwell Akela - Gwen Pack, who is retiring from scouting in July. We presented her with a clock, flowers and cake, Gwen will be missed but will always be welcome at our District events.(DO COME AND SEE US GWEN)

After our goodbyes the cubs were dismissed and began to depart for home,tired but happy after an enjoyable weekend.

I would like to thank all who helped to make this weekend a great success, especially the Service Crew who worked extremely hard from the previous Wednesday, getting the field to rights, through to Sunday, thanks also to the Fellowship who ran the Tuck Shop. Lastly to all cubs and leaders, without all these helpers we could not have a District Camp.

Chris Parr ADC Cub Scouts.

OUR CHALLENGING WEEKEND.

We are three patrol leaders from 8th. Letchworth, and we would like to tell you about the challenging weekend our leaders arranged for us. On Saturday morning at H.Q. our rucksacks were checked, our money was taken away, and 30p. was given to us by the leaders.

We were given a map reference which led us to Henlow where we were met by our leaders. Here we were given a task to do which to our surprise led us to our own bicycles. We were off again on our bikes with another map reference taking us to Bedford, here we were expecting to camp, but oh no!! . Now we had to canoe up the river for six miles, this was hard work for Andrew.

At last we arrived at the camp site, but our days work wasn't done ! The tent had to be put up, and then we were given our ration boxes, from which we cooked our meal. By now it was late and we were tired, so we went and sat round the fire,where we had uninvited guests from the local pub, who were dealt with.

Thank you very much for a great weekend.

Andrew, James and John.

P.S. We will get our revenge!!

JAMBOREE.

I am pleased to say the District has been offered another Jamboree place with the Bedfordshire contingent. Congratulations to John Lawrie (Beech Springs VSU) who will be taking this place.

BIRD BOXES FOR NORTONBURY.

We are looking for groups to construct bird boxes for Nortonbury. If you are interested please contact Barbara Crombie (tel. 671062) who can give you RSPB instructions for building bird boxes and provide materials.

AN AMATEUR RADIO STATION AT YOUR CAMP.

A new neighbour of mine, recently arrived from the north of England, is a Radio Ham. His wife tells me he has set up and operated his radio gear at Scouting events.

If any group is interested for, say, a weekend camp, please let me know and I'll approach him for you.

Ron Smith. Tel. 682900.

DISTRICT BARBEQUE. THURSDAY 7th. JULY. NORTONBURY, 7.30pm. ONWARDS.

Have you booked your place ? Please join us, just the place for a get together. Contact Barbara Thwaites (tel. 892020)

BEDFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL.

A Celebration of Country Life from the 1920s and 30s.
Shuttleworth. Old Warden Park. 27/28/29th. August 1994.

A good day out for groups.

Groups please find attached information leaflet.

Admission £6.00 adults. £3.00 Children and OAPs.

For further information call Andi Dyason on 0767 316111.

Programme includes :

Living agricultural demonstrations, traditional skills, steam, themed music, 20s funfair, flying displays and unusual arena events, as well as fashions and exclusive shops. Guest appearances from the princess of Wales Parachute team, The Lloyds Black Horse, MGM movies, Working 20s bakery with authentic equipment, The Shuttleworth Arms and much more.

DISTRICT DIARY.

JULY.

- 6th. Warrants Committee.
- 7th. District Barbeque. Nortonbury. 7.30pm onwards,
- 14th. District Executive.
- 20th. Beavers Bangers and Bash.

SCOUT DATES KNOWN TO HSG EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT at 13 May 1994

JUNE 1994

- 3-5 Basic Pioneering badge course, Tolmers*
- 5 County Beaver Scout fun day, Phasels Wood*
- 5 Rock climbing course, Phasels Wood*
- 5 Resuscitation award course, Phasels Wood*
- 10-12 National Scout Fellowship camp, Gilwell Park, Essex
- 11, and 9 July: Phase 3 Leader training 4
- 11-12 Open days, Orchard Farm, Staffordshire
- 12 Buccaneer Trophy competition, Tolmers*
- 17-19 Phase 4 all sections Leader training begins, Well End*
- 24-26 25 and 40 mile walk, Oswestry, Shropshire, to Bodfari, Clwyd
- 25-26 Phase 4 Scout Leader training begins, Well End*

JULY 1994

- 1-3 Jim's Mystery Tour (JMT11), who knows where?
- 3 Cub Scout canoeing day, Cheshunt*
- 4 Scout County AGM, County Hall, Hertford*
- 8-10 Romanesque weekend, Weston Park*
- 18 Leader training for canoeing, Watford*
- 30, to 13 August: Activity fortnight, Tolmers*

AUGUST 1994

- 4-21 Contingent visits Russian International Jamboree
- 27-28 Single pitch supervisors' award training course, Tebay, Cumbria

SEPTEMBER 1994

- 9-11 Initial mountaineering course reunion, Coetmor Mill, Gwynedd
- 10-11 Phase 4 Scout Leader training*
- 10, and 22 October: Phase 3 Leader training 5, Well End*
- 11, and 23 October: Phase 3 Leader training 6, Well End*
- 16, and 8-9 October: Phase 5 Leader training 3*
- 16-17 Phase 4 Cub Leader training, Well End*
- 16-18 Leader training for canoeing, Wye
- 18 Phase 4 Beaver Leader training, Well End*
- 18-23 Mountain leadership (summer) training course, Tebay, Cumbria
- 24-25 Single pitch supervisors' award assessment course, Tebay, Cumbria
- 25 Scout County sailing regatta, Nazeing Mead, Essex
- 30 Communicator badge course begins, Tolmers*
- 30, to 2 October: BCU instructor training course, Cheshunt*
- 30, to 2 October: Basic hill walking for adults, Coetmor Mill, Gwynedd
- 30, to 2 October: Introduction to white water canoeing, Wye
- 30, to 2 October: County Venture Scout Gathering, Gilwell Park, Essex

OCTOBER 1994

- 1-2 Phase 4 Scout Leader training, Well End*
- 2 County Scout Fellowship activity day, Wormley* or Cheshunt*
- 9 Forester badge course begins, Tolmers*

*Hertfordshire, of course