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MARCH 1995 No.403

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN
OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK
DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

DAVE LIDDLE.

We are much saddened by the untimely death of Dave Liddle on February 4th. aged 50 years whilst on holiday in Australia.

Dave was the Chief Engineer at Fairfield Hospital and joined 11th. Letchworth as Scout Leader in 1980 where he continued until the end of 1988. During his leadership the Troop grew in size and reputation, having considerable success in both District and County Events whilst about a dozen scouts gained the Chief Scouts Award.

Dave was a devoted family man and he and his second wife Hazel, provided a loving home for their son Robert and Hazels sons Richard, Andrew and Chris from her first marriage. Andrew and Chris both became successful scouts and Robert became an enthusiastic Cub Scout under the leadership of Hazel who was a much respected District Akela.

When Dave left Letchworth in 1988 it was to be Warden at Buckmore in Kent and from there he progressed to be Warden at Walesby Scout Centre where he served for the last five years of his life.

His funeral took place on Monday 20th. February at Mansfield Crematorium attended by his family and many, many friends including representatives from 11th. Letchworth and the District.

Dave had a wonderful gift for bringing out the best in young people and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Our thoughts go to Hazel and the family.

JAMBOREE 1995.

Adam Scoot is now unable to attend the Jamboree, his place will go to Andrew Howlett previously a scout with 1st. Baldock now a member of Beech Springs VSU.

MIKE MANSFIELD.

As from 5th. March Mike Mansfields address will be : 37 CHATTERTON. LETCHWORTH. Will all Group Treasurers please note this change when sending their Annual Subscriptions.

DISTRICT A.G.M.

The District A.G.M. will take place on Thursday 11th. May 1995 in the Clulow Room of St. George's Church Hall. Please put this date in your diary.

REMINDER.

ADMINISTRATORS EVENING, 30th. MARCH 1995. NORTONBURY. 8.00pm.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY PARADE.

Sunday 23rd. April, St. Mary's Church Ashwell. 3.00pm.

Rehearsal Saturday 22nd. April 10.00am. Full uniform.

AUTHORISATION FOR ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES - NEW PROPOSALS.

So far as the individual seeking authorisation is concerned, he or she will still be authorised by the District Commissioner (or the County/Area Commissioner if appropriate) acting on technical advice from the relevant County/Area Adviser. In those cases in which the applicant does hold a formal qualification, it will be necessary in future to provide a photocopy of the relevant certificate(s). There will still be an initial local assessment of the applicants general personal suitability carried out by the responsible Group Scout Leader (if applicable) and the District Commissioner. As now, this local Assessment will have no technical element to it.

The County/Area Adviser will then carry out an assessment of the applicants technical suitability on the basis of the material submitted by the applicant, personal knowledge of the applicant, and, if required by the County/Area Adviser, a practical assessment. This assessment, the provision for which is new, will be of the applicants personal technical competence in the activity, and his/her competence to lead, and to instruct young people at an appropriate level in the the activity, and of his/her competence in carrying out the activity with a group of young people.

The arrangements for these practical assessments will need careful local consideration if a necessary reform is not to become an unnecessary bottleneck, but if we are to have the confidence in our authorisations which is now called for, a County/Area Adviser must be able to require a practical assessment when he or she judges that it is necessary. In most Counties/Areas, it should prove relatively straightforward to plan opportunities for 'routine' water activities assessments, most of which will probably relate to sailing and /or canoeing. Assessments for single pitch climbing and abseiling should also be similarly straightforward. We recognise, however, that for English Counties remote from the hills the arranging of assessments for hillwalking is likely to mean planning one or two extra week-ends away.

As now, the authorisation itself will be issued locally by the District Commissioner: It will be subject to review at intervals of not more than five years, and may be reviewed at any time on the request of the applicant, or if required by the District Commissioner. Authorisations will almost always be limited to specified levels of activity, and may be restricted in terms of location, weather conditions, time of year etc. An authorised person must have emergency aid training relevant and appropriate to his or her activity and level of authorisation. The provision for all authorisations to be reviewed is new (although most existing authorisations have been subject to review), and the existing review period of three years has been varied to a maximum of five years. It will obviously be appropriate to issue some authorisations for shorter periods this will be a matter for local discretion.

ADULT RECRUITMENT FOR LEADERS AND GROUP ADMINISTRATORS.

Following the success of the first workshop and the launch at the end of January, here are the dates for the next three this year:

Sunday March 12th. Stevenage.
Saturday June 10th. Broxbourne.
Sunday Sept. 24th. Leverstock Green.

The workshops will start at 9.30am. and finish by 4.30pm. Cost is £5.00 per head, and participants should bring a packed lunch. The cost covers the provision of the new publication, "Recruiting Adults - A Practical Guide", which will be found most useful back in Groups and Districts afterwards.

Applications to :

Steve Harris.
239 Bennetts End Road.
Hemel Hempstead.
Herts. HP3 8DZ.
Tel. 01442 243018

2nd. BALDOCK BEAVER SCOUTS.

Well done ! You are the first ones to give me items for the Ideas Fair display. Come on Cubs, Scouts and Ventures, May will soon come round and we want to promote Scouting in the District.

OPERATION FERRET.

Come on Groups ! Get your Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Ventures, Leaders and Parents organised. Operation Ferret has come round again. Pick up your list of items to beg, borrow but not steal on Saturday morning , 8th. April at 8.30am. from 12th. Letchworth HQ. Take them all to 12th. Letchworth HQ. on Sunday 9th. April for marking at 8.30am. For any information please contact: Lee Crossman on 0462 679459.

LEADERS TRAINING WEEKEND. NOVEMBER 4/5th. 1995.

Chris Parr would like Leaders to put forward suggestions for items and activities to be included in this weekend.

DISTRICT JAMBOREE.

There will be a District Jamboree next May 3rd. to 6th. 1996. Cubs, Scouts and Ventures will be camping and Beavers will be visiting on the Saturday and Sunday.

Ideas are needed for activities. A sub committee is required to organise and run the weekend. Will those interested please contact Chris Parr. 0462 892001.

DISTRICT SIXERS AND SECONDS TRAINING WEEKEND. 18/19th. MARCH. NORTONBURY.

Please make sure that all Akelas have booked their boys in for this weekend.

DISTRICT CUB SCOUTS SIX A SIDE FOOTBALL.

This will take place on Saturday March 25th. at Fearnhill School.

DISTRICT DIARY.

MARCH.

1st.	Warrants Committee.
6th.	Cub Leaders Meeting. 12 Kristiansand Way.
9th.	Executive Committee.
18/19th.	Sixers and Seconds Weekend.
25th.	District Cub Six a Side.
30th.	Administrators Evening.

APRIL.

4th	.Warrants Committee.
6th.	Phase 11 Training. .7.00pm. Nortonbury.
8/9th.	Operation Ferret.
13th.	Executive Committee.
22nd.	St. George's Day rehearsal.
23rd.	St. George's Day Parade.
27th.	District Team Meeting

SCOUT DATES KNOWN TO THE HSG EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT...
(FURTHER THAN THE ONES ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE MARCH EDITION)

A P R I L 1995 * * * * *

1-2 and 7 Venture Scout Getting Organized weekend, Stevenage
4 County Venture Scout Council
7-9, 21-23 and 28-30 Electronics badge course, Tolmers
7-9, and 23-25 June Phase 4 Cub Leader training 3, Well End
7-15 Initial mountaineering course 1, Lochearnhead
8 First day session for sailing courses, Hertford
8-9 Canoe surfing weekend, Norfolk
15 Official opening of new facilities, Lochearnhead
15-22 Initial mountaineering course 2, Lochearnhead
22 Second day session for sailing courses, Hertford

M A Y 1995 * * * * *

5-8 Introduction to the hills, Orchard Farm
6-8 Tent and marquee display, Phasels Wood
12-14 Scout Fellowship Region 3 weekend, Isle of Wight
20, and 17 June Phase 3 Scouter training 12, Well End
20-22 Canoe slalom course
20, and 18 June Phase 3 Scouter training 13, Well End
27 to 3 June Sailing courses, East Mersea
31 County draw tickets returned

J U N E 1995 * * * * *

3 County draw
5 County Venture Scout Council
9-11 NATIONAL SCOUT FELLOWSHIP CAMP, WESTON PARK
10-11 Phase 4 Scout Leader training 2 begins, Well End
10-11 Camp Cook badge course, Tolmers
23-25 Forty (or 25) mile walk, South Downs Way
28 New Beaver programme launch, Welwyn Garden City
30 to 2 July Basic Pioneering badge course, Tolmers

J U L Y 1995 * * * * *

1-2, and 16 September Phase 4 Beaver Leader training 3, Well End
1-2 Phase 4 Venture Leader training begins, Well End
3 County Annual General Meeting, County Hall
26-28 HoHoHe (Home Hospitality, Hertfordshire)
29 to 12 August Activity fortnight, Tolmers

A U G U S T 1995 * * * * *

1-11 Eighteenth World Jamboree, Dronten
26 to 2 September County Scout section camp, Lochearnhead

S E P T E M B E R 1995 * * * * *

1-3 Gilwell Reunion
5 County Venture Scout Council
17 Scout County sailing regatta, Broxbourne
18, and 21-22 October Phase 5 Scouter training 7
22-24 County camping competition
23-24 Scouters' specialist training TEC07, Well End
30, and 28 October Phase 3 Scouter training 14, Welwyn Garden City

O C T O B E R 1995 * * * * *

1, and 5 November Phase 3 Scouter training 15, Hemel Hempstead
6-8, 13-15 and 20-22 Scout Communicator badge course, Tolmers
8: Forester badge course begins, Tolmers
19, and 25-26 November Phase 5 Scouter training 8
20-22 Jamboree on the Air
22 Cyclocross, Tolmers