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THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN  
OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK  
DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Many Thanks to Dave and Rita Hawkins, Ron Smith, Michael Eve and Michael Wright who helped with the printing and distribution of last month's Co-Ordinator.

GANG SHOW 1997



This years Gang Show will be on 14th and 15th March 1997 at Plinston Hall.

Rehearsals start on Saturday 5th October - 5.30pm until 8pm - at 1st/3rd Letchworth Scout HQ.

Everyone can take part - Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Ventures, Leaders, Fellowship. (Beavers only need attend from 5.30 until 7pm)

Any questions/queries/problems then please contact the Producer - Andrea Soulsby on Baldock 491401.

Administration Evening - Thursday 17th October

It is hoped that members of Group Executives, especially treasurers, will attend this meeting when the main topic will be the Charity Commission requirements for Group Accounts. In view of recent legislation this is a very important item.

FELLOWSHIP AGM

The Fellowship AGM is to be held at the Guide HO Icknield Way, Letchworth on Saturday 19th October, 7pm for 7.30pm. The meeting will be followed by a Buffet and Quiz. All are welcome to attend.

DISTRICT MINIBUS

Would Groups using the minibus please note that it does not automatically refill itself with petrol nor does it clean itself. This year we have had to put £30 worth of petrol in the tank and on a number of occasions it has been returned dirty.

The minibus MUST be used responsibly and looked after by those who use it.

8th Letchworth Scout HQ

The new 8th Letchworth HQ was officially opened by Stuart Kenny, Director-General of the Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation and the building was accepted on behalf of the Scout Association by Paul Brenham, MBE Chief Commissioner for England. Roger Sands, County Commissioner, was in attendance. It replaces their old HO which suffered for some years from structural failure caused by tree damage.

The new HQ has a large modern activity area, a committee room, a kitchen and storage space. The Scouts are now raising money for new furniture. All the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers and their leaders are thrilled with the new base and they would be happy for other community groups to use the facilities for functions in return for a contribution towards running costs.

Cubs District Sports - Sunday 22nd September

What a great pity more packs and cubs were not able to enjoy the sports day. The weather was kind to us, although dull and windy it stayed dry and was ideal for the boys that participated in the fun races. All the cubs who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the biggest moan was that the event was only held every two years. I will be visiting all packs that took part and presenting certificates to the cubs. I would like to thank the leaders and Beech Springs VSU who helped run the event so successfully.

Chris Parr - ADC Cubs

## POOLE HARBOUR

On Friday 28th June some Scouts went to Poole Harbour. We went in Glenn's big van, it took three and a half hours to get there. When we got there it was dark and the ground was hard and we could not push our pegs into the ground but Pauline had a mallet, so we took it in turns to use it. When we had put up our tents we went to bed.

On Saturday 29th June we went to Wareham and got onto the river Frome which lead out into Poole Harbour. When we got into the harbour it was very rough and windy. Soon after we got into the harbour we had lunch, we got out of our boats and had lunch behind the bank and Glenn sat on an ant's nest! After lunch we saw that the tide had gone out so we had to walk with our boats through sloppy mud, after lunch it was very hard work paddling back to the car park near Rockley Sands, We paddled about 6 miles. Back at the camp site we went to a club and played computer games and pool, and after that went to bed.

On Sunday 30th June we canoed around Brownsea Island where the first Scouts camped with Baden-Powell. To get there we had to cross the shipping channel, this was very rough and we had to watch out for bigger boats. We had lunch on the western side of Brownsea Island (the ants were even bigger here!) It got a little misty as we paddled back, but it soon cleared. It was still rough so we were able to surf on the way back. We had paddled 6 miles again on this trip.

We all slept on the way home - except Glenn who was driving!!!!

### David Staines - 1st Baldock Scouts

The following is an extract from the newsletter of 1st Baldock Scouts - it is a report from an anonymous lady member -

"Surprise (and even horror) is the expression on many people's faces when I tell them I go to Scout Summer Camp for part of the week each year. You can see horror at the thought of 'middle of a field, no toilets, no showers, sleeping in a tent' pass through their minds! They've never lived! We do have a shower and it even has hot water if we heat it up and persuade a strong man to carry the large 'billie' across the field to the shower tent! When you crawl out of your 'three man' tent where you have struggled to pull your trousers on lying down only to discover they are inside out - what do you do? The answer is - nothing! After all you are in the middle of a field - who cares? Certainly not the boys who are far too busy having a great time to even notice what the leaders are doing or wearing. Struggling up Hay Bluff (720 metres high) thinking only of the wonderful view, the weather closing in the instant you step over the top so you can only see a few feet in front, getting so wet (yes right through to the underwear!), cold and wind blown the only thing to do is come straight down again, drying out back at camp, deciding to go for a walk to Hay-on-Wye the short route through a potato field, a wheat field and lots of sheep, arriving there to buy a longed for bar of chocolate (with money still soggy from the mornings walk) - and then - horror upon horror - seeing yourself in a shop window! If you have never done these things you haven't been to Summer Camp! It's great - we enjoy it and more importantly so do the boys!"

## Diary Dates

### OCTOBER

- 2 - Warrants Committee
- 5 - Gang Show rehearsals start - 1st/3rd HQ
- 5/6 - Scouts County Camping Competition - Nortonbury
- 10 - County Wardens Meeting - Well End
- 10 - District Exec Meeting
- 15 - DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER CO-ORDINATOR
- 17 - Administrators Evening
- 19 - Fellowship AGM - Guide HQ Letchworth
- 21 - District Team Meeting

### NOVEMBER

- 6 - Warrants Committee
- 11 - District Cub Leaders meeting - 32 The Rowans
- 14 - District Exec Meeting
- 15/17 - Green Beret - Lees Wood, Watford
- 17 - DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER CO-ORDINATOR
- 22 - District Cub Quiz - 5th Letchworth HQ
- 29 - District Scout Quiz - Venue TBA
- 30 - County Cub Celebration Service - St Pauls Cathedral