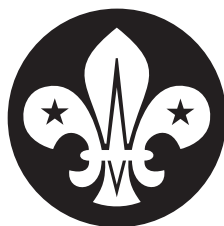


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THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

GREEN BERET 1996 - 1st Baldock takes the trophy!

Yes, we did it! at this years Green Beret Challenge, held over the weekend of 15th/17th November, at Lees Wood near Watford. our 'A' team under the leadership of Peter King (PL Stags) lifted the trophy for overall competition winners beating 83 other teams from across Hertfordshire for this much coveted award. Although they failed to win any of the 4 individual sections - assault course, orienteering, daylight or night time challenge bases - it was their consistent high placing in all disciplines that kept them above the other teams.

The weekend was made even more complete thanks to the superb effort shown by our other two teams. The 'B' team under the leadership of David Staines (PL Tigers) finished in a creditable 23rd place, this being David's first chance to actually lead a team in the challenge makes it even more rewarding. The 'C' team under the leadership of David Albon, were unable to feature in the results due to being outside the prescribed age restriction on team members (only 2 members of any team may be older than 14 years of age), but even with the knowledge of this hanging over them they gave the competition their all and gained for themselves a lot of practical experience. The weather was good to us for the competition, not so good for packing up (it poured down non-stop), there was a great atmosphere, good food (I hope) and a great deal of fun had from this weekend. Roll on 1997 and let's see if we can win all the sections as well as the overall!

TEAMS AND PLAYERS :-

'A' Team

Peter King
Adam Hemmings
Stephen King
Nick Brown
Richard Mattheson
Daniel Staines*

'B' Team

David Staines
Adrian Lai
Paul Hoeg
James Glover*
Graeme LaRoche*
David Kenyon*

'C' Team

David Albon
David Hall*
Andrew Walsh
Matthew Hall*
Paul Glover*
Jamie Pateman*

(* = 1st time competitors)

Support crew :- Chris King, Glen Coiley, Mark Hemmings and Chris King (Little)

Congratulations once again to all those who took part, especially all those 1st timers.

Adapted from an article in "The Link" (1st Baldock Troop newsletter) by Chris King - SL 1st Baldock

CO-ORDINATOR

1st BALDOCK SCOUT GROUP - FLY THE FLAG

Rumours are rife - has a schooner been buried in the grounds of the Scout H. Q. in Park Drive - or have they opened a Sea Scour section and erected a mast for rigging training?

The truth is, after years of fund raising for a new headquarters, the GSL needed to erect something - anything! - as a symbol of progress towards their new building. A year ago KIER donated a 30!t flag pole from the Bundy Site, as long as the Group arranged for its transportation from the site. It was carefully lowered towards the ground but mysteriously got heavier as it was lowered and fell the last 10ft - burying its cross beam into the ground! Then all that was needed was to carry it to the Scout Hut - easy! It only took a year for us to get our breath back and regain sufficient energy to put it up outside the Scout Hut.

Dean Parr straightened the girder supports and Beech Springs Venture Unit volunteered to take on the project. With great gusto they dug the foundation, filled and painted the pole. Then, under the cover of darkness on Thursday 24 October swiftly hauled it into the air - much to everyone's surprise. In the end it was easy they said.

The Scout Group will now be flying the flag on all notable occasions throughout the year.

DIARY DATES

DECEMBER 1996

4th	Warrants Meeting - Norton Bury
12th	District Executive Meeting - Norton Bury
14th	DEADLINE FOR JANUARY CO-ORDINATOR
16th	Cubs 80th Birthday Celebration - Lannock School, Letchworth
19th	Scout Shop closes for Christmas Break

JANUARY 1997

8th	Warrants Meeting - Norton Bury
9th	District Executive Meeting - Norton Bury
13th	District Cub Leaders Meeting - 32 The Rowans
22nd	DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY CO-ORDINATOR
23rd	District Scout Leaders Meeting - Norton Bury