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THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Happy New Year to everyone, and I hope that you all had a very enjoyable Christmas.

WOOD BADGE

Congratulations to Chris Lunnon (Bacchus VSU) who has been awarded the Wood Badge (Venture Scouts)

NORTON BURY TUCKSHOP

The Norton Bury TUCKSHOP is in desperate need of large CLEAR plastic jars for displaying sweets. If you were lucky enough to have a big jar of sweets for Christmas and want to find a good home for an empty jar, then please remember Norton Bury Tuckshop. Thankyou. Please contact Sheila May on Letchworth 673427 if you can help.

SCOUT JOB WEEK 31ST MARCH - 5TH APRIL 1997

Any Group wishing to take part in this fund raising activity, please let me know your numbers by 10th January 1997 as I need to order the materials.

Rita Hawkins - 01462 491228

CENSUS 1997

It's that time of year again, the A4 manila envelope will soon be falling through your letter box. (Group Secretaries) in which will be the Census form for your Group to complete. THIS MUST BE RETURNED TO ME (District Secretary, Rita Hawkins) BY FRIDAY 17TH JANUARY 1997. In addition County also require the names of all unwarranted helpers.

FAILURE TO MEET THE DEADLINE WILL RESULT IN THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS MAKING NUISANCE PHONE CALLS TO YOU AT ALL HOURS OF THE DAY AND NIGHT. SO BE WARNED.

SCOUT QUIZ

4th Letchworth "A" team were worthy winners in a closely contested Quiz with 1st/3rd Letchworth as runners-up and 5th Letchworth in third place. All contestants shared a wide general knowledge by recognising animals, birds and reptiles displayed on slides, identifying national flags, recognising the signature tunes of TV programmes, answering two rounds of general knowledge questions and a round of Scouting skills - more practice needed on bowlines and sheepshanks !

Well done to all the Scouts who took part and joined in the good spirits of a fun evening and thanks to the organisers.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS WITH 5TH LETCHWORTH CUBS.

5th Letchworth Cubs entertained their parents and friends to a journey around the world on a magic carpet woven of ingenuity and imagination.

First of all they visited the pyramids of Egypt where they dressed in traditional costume and held camel races. They went on to Kenya for a wild life safari which was held amongst the wild animals at Woburn. Their HQ was turned into a Indian Temple to celebrate Diwali with Mr Ra who brought Indian costumes, artefacts and food to explain the Festival and its significance for Indian Culture. Eighty trips down the flume at Letchworth Leisure Centre equated to a trip down the Angel Falls in Venezuela. The final country which they visited was Canada. They spent the whole week-end at their HQ where they went skiing, sledge racing and slept in igloos. They studied Scouting in Canada and were able to dress in a Canadian Scout Uniform.

Well done to the Cubs of the 5th for such an exciting journey and well done to the Leaders for using the occasion to involve the parents.

We look forward to hearing from other Packs about their journeys.

CUBS 80th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION - 16th December - Lannock School

Approximately 100 cubs enjoyed a Disco with entertainment (such as magic and limbo dancing) at our 80th Birthday party.

The Deputy County Commissioner, Brian Melville, came along to wish us 'Happy Birthday' and present us with our Birthday present. Laurie Cook cut the cake with Lorna Kercher, the vice chairman of North Herts District Council.

Many thanks to all the leaders for their help and to Clive Parr, who made & decorated our Birthday cake.

CUB QUIZ

This was well attended and all the Cubs enjoyed themselves. After a very close contest and a tie-break, the winners were 8th Letchworth, with 2nd Weston & 2nd Baldock equal second. Well done to all the packs who took part and to all the leaders for their hard work.

BALDOCK ROTARIANS STEP IN TO SUPPORT BEECH SPRINGS VENTURE UNIT

When Baldock's Rotarians heard that it's local Venture Unit was trying to expand, it stepped in with £1,000 worth of equipment to help the unit which is 20 years old next year.

Venture Unit Leader Glenn Coiley, said "We are very grateful to Baldock Rotarians for their generous donation of equipment. This helps us to continue our expansion and attract more 15-20 year olds to this worthwhile adventure activity centered organization".

Since taking over the Venture Unit in February the Ventures have designed their own membership pack, assisted in District Scouting, been on various multi-activity weekends as well as doing archery, climbing, trampolining, shooting and dry slope skiing, during their regular Thursday night meetings. The future looks bright now with firm bookings for advanced mountaineering in Scotland, St. John's Ambulance First Aid training, sailing, canoeing and parascending all featured on its programme and the unit has quadrupled in size in 8 months.

John Hilditch of Baldock Rotarians said "Helping our youth develop their character is important; we think the Venture Scouts are doing something positive to achieve this and are pleased to help. Over the years to come we hope many young people will enjoy learning to use the equipment in the hills and mountains they are designed for. It is a challenge we are sure they will live up to".

If you would like more information please phone Glenn or Maggie Coiley on 01462-895650

DIARY DATES**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

FEBRUARY

5th	Warrants Meeting - Norton Bury
8th	St Albans Gang Show
8-9th	Sixers/seconders training weekend - Norton Bury
13th	District Patrol Leaders Meeting - Norton Bury
13th	District Executive Meeting - Norton Bury
17-21st	HALF TERM
21st	DEADLINE FOR MARCH CO-ORDINATOR
22nd	Founders/Thinking Day
23rd	ADC Meeting - Stevenage
23rd	County Scout Cooking Competition - Stevenage
27th	District Team Meeting - Norton Bury
28th	5th Letchworth Anniversary - 40 years