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April 1997 No:426



## THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

### ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE

SUN APRIL 20th - Catholic Church, Baldock

Please assemble at Knight's Templar Car Park at 2:15pm

The rehearsal is on Saturday 19th April at 10am. Full uniform please.

For further details, please refer to the February Co-Ordinator.

### NEW LEADER

The Warrants Committee extends a welcome to Stephen Burborough as ASL at 7th Letchworth. Stephen has been a helper at the Group for about a year already and is now going into uniform. Welcome!

### FIRST AID TRAINING

Chris Lunnon (VSL) has arranged for Kim Henson (County Mountain Activity Adviser) to run a First Aid Certificate Course in order to be able to obtain your "M" form.

The Course will be held 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> April 1997 at 11<sup>th</sup> Letchworth Headquarters at a cost of £20.00 per person.

Anybody interested please contact Chris Lunnon on Baldock (01462) 896289

### OPERATION FERRET

This crazy (but fun) event is resurfacing - Please note the date in your diaries - 17th/8th May. Further details will appear in the next Co-Ordinator.

### CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER

Please note that ANNE LILLEY has changed her phone number. It is now Letchworth 621271

### "Find Your Group Pack"

The Association is currently reviewing its Youth programme to be attractive and relevant for all young people beyond the year 2000. Calling all GSL's - have you seen your copy of the 'Group Pack'? (\*available late April/early May) No? Then contact your District Commissioner to give you your copy and help you work through the pack. It is the main method of obtaining information on the strengths and weaknesses of the current 6-20 programme. Exit interviews are also taking place in Districts across the UK.

Key steps in the gathering of information - don't miss out - make your opinion count!

(Taken from "Talking Points" - The Scout Associations General Information News Sheet)

## **18-25 Year Olds - An Opportunity For All**

Between April and September this year the Scout Association will be piloting a new provision for 18-25 year olds. This new and exciting approach to Scouting will involve Members joining a National Network of people within the age range and involving them in a limitless range of activities. This provision is open to everyone whether they are current members or not and whatever their current Scouting involvement or appointment. If you would be interested in joining the Scout Network then for further information or application form please contact the Scout Network Office at Gilwell Park, or by E-Mail to [ukgilscout@aol.com](mailto:ukgilscout@aol.com)

(Taken from "Talking Points")

## **Helpers - Undervalued Assets?**

Most Leaders know that they have a degree of Personal Accident Insurance provided by the Association. It provides a fairly basic level of protection but it does help - especially in those cases where a Leader is laid up for some weeks in plaster!

Alas, the illusive 'Helper' has no such luxury. We cannot provide 'Automatic' cover because we have no idea how many there are but Groups can buy in to the main policy, for their valued committee members and Helpers\*, for as little as £26.25 for up to 25 unnamed people. Surely they are worth that!

Details of the current levels of benefit (which have recently changed) can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Scout Insurance Services, Dept.PA, at Lancing.

\* Helpers, in this instance, are those not included in your census returns.

(Taken from "Talking Points")

## **A COLONY GOOD TURN**

2nd Baldock Beavers held a RED NOSE evening. on March 14th. We raised £30 for Comic Relief by selling "Red Nose" biscuits, "Red Nose" gingerbread men (made by Otter) and by the "Red Nose" lucky dip. We played "Red Nose" relay games with straws and red ping-pong balls. We also coloured in a huge drawing of a beaver and gave him a red pom-pom nose and put him up on the wall.

## **DISTRICT GANG SHOW 1997**

We raised £86.55 for Comic Relief from the sale of programmes and the "Ugly Sisters Bucket Collection" Thankyou.

Congratulations and well done to everyone who was involved in this years Gang Show. Thankyou to Laurie Cook and the Fellowship for doing the Front of House and refreshments; Michael Wright for the Stage Management; Alan Wright for the sound; John Rideout for the lighting; Venetia Crowther for the costumes and Mike Miles for writing and producing the Pantomime. Many thanks to everyone who came to support the Gang show and I hope that you all found something in the show that you enjoyed, it was just a pity that more people didn't come along to watch! Watch this space for details of the next Gang Show and I hope that more of you will come and join in the fun.

Andrea Soulsby - Director Gang Show 97

## **BEAVER SCOUT CHALLENGE**

Norton Bury - March 22nd

A fine afternoon helped make this years challenge a great success. Six colonies represented by their eldest 8(ish!) boys started by getting their heads together for a quiz and then the task of identifying, counting and remembering animals - (all at "beaver pace" - tearing around as fast as their little legs will carry them!!) in the wide game. After that it was time for a well earned drink and biscuit and then we finished with a scavenger hunt - this entailed the beavers, hand in hand and again at "beaver pace" collecting strands of wool and giving them to their leaders to tie together - the longest being the winner. "Thanks" to all the leaders for your efforts - it was a great afternoon.

The shield was presented to 1st Baldock(Tuesday) colony who narrowly (just 1 point in it) beat 1st Baldock(Thursday) colony. In 3rd place were Sth Letchworth. Well done to all those who took part.

Sheila Staines - ADC(Beavers)

## DISTRICT CUB FOOTBALL - MARCH 8<sup>th</sup>

It was pleasing to see all Cubs Packs entering at least one team. In the end we had 14 teams being split into two Groups of 7. After 42 exciting matches, Group 1 was won by 5<sup>th</sup> Letchworth (A) with 2<sup>nd</sup> Weston as runners up. Group 2 was won by 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock with 1<sup>st</sup> Baldock (B) as runners up, having scored more goals in their Group than 8<sup>th</sup> Letchworth.

First semi-final between 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock V 2<sup>nd</sup> Weston was a cliffhanger with chances being missed at either end. Full time the score was 0 - 0, so each team took it in turns to take 3 penalties each. 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock converted all 3 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Weston 2.

The second semi-final between 5<sup>th</sup> Letchworth (A) and 1<sup>st</sup> Baldock (B) was again an exciting match ending 0 - 0 after normal time. Again each team took turns to take 3 penalties. 5<sup>th</sup> Letchworth (A) converting 2 to 1<sup>st</sup> Baldock (B) 0.

The final was extremely exciting with chances being missed by both teams. At full time the score was 0 - 0. Again it was back to penalties, this time 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock converted 2 out of 3 and 5<sup>th</sup> Letchworth (A) 0 out of 3.

I would like to congratulate all the Cubs in the way they behaved and the spirit in which they played the matches. Thanks to Graham and Anthony ( the referee's) for doing an excellent job. And a final thank you to all the Leaders, Team Managers and Cubs for making it a great afternoon's competition.

D T Hawkins (ACSL)  
Organiser

### District Cub Football 1997

#### GROUP 1

TEAM	P	W	D	L	POINTS	POSITION
1ST ASHWELL(A)	6	0	3	3	3	6th
1ST BALDOCK (A)	6	0	5	1	5	5th
1ST 3RD Let(A)	6	1	3	2	6	4th
5TH Let (A)	6	5	1	0	16	1st
2ND WESTON	6	2	4	0	10	2nd
7TH Let	6	0	2	4	2	7th
11TH Let	6	2	3	1	9	3rd

WINNERS 5th Letchworth (A)  
RUNNERS UP 2nd Weston

#### GROUP 2

TEAM	P	W	D	L	POINTS	POSITION
1ST ASHWELL	6	0	4	2	4	7th
1ST BALDOCK (B)	6	1	5	1	8	2nd
1ST 3RD Let (B)	6	1	3	2	6	5th
5TH Let (B)	6	1	4	1	7	4th
2ND BALDOCK	6	3	3	0	12	1st
4TH Let	6	0	5	1	5	6th
8TH Let	6	2	2	2	8	3rd

WINNERS 2nd Baldock  
\*RUNNERS 1st Baldock (B)

AN OLD FOGY AT THE GANG SHOW

That was a clever beginning. A silent group in silhouette - the audience wondering what was going to happen - and the sudden topical surprise of the whole Gang with noses to match their neckerchiefs! That was good.

There were some quite sublime moments in this year's show, perhaps the greatest being the sheer uninhibited cheek of Cinderella's three sisters. Finding big he-man Scouts prepared to carry on like that is the real basic stuff of the peculiarly British show business tradition shared by Gang Show, Music Hall and Pantomime - and we peculiar British audiences love it.

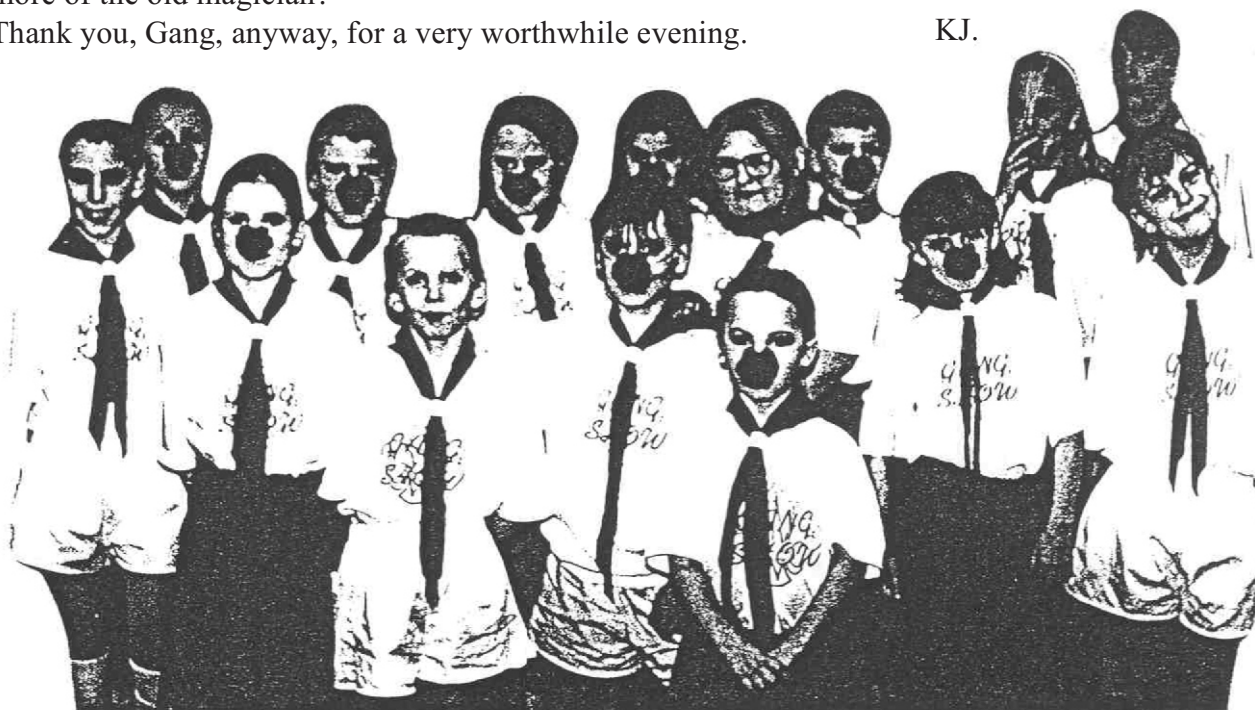
So it was a great idea to devote nearly half the show to an original pantomime, and especially such a shameless spoof Oh, yes, it was! But it must be said that even on Saturday night we missed an awful lot of Mike Miles's words because almost all the performers were in too much of a hurry to let us hear the rhyming couplets. That was a pity.

By contrast, in the middle of that marvellously colourful "Animal Fair", the two Doctor Doolittles gave us such perfect clarity, showing such confidence in what they were doing. Though there are no "stars" in a Gang Show, I looked out for these two in the later choruses, and they were noticeable, seeming to know instinctively how to move to the music. It's a natural skill, but the other lads and lasses still have time to acquire it.

Some of them also looked very worried during the "Aspects of Love", and being a traditionalist old fogey I wondered if this was because the music of Lord Lloyd Webber and suchlike is a bit too difficult to perform. Although the "Starlight Express" number with everyone on skates was a breathtaking success, it was still the good old tunes that really roused everyone in the cast - and the audience - from dear old "Nellie the Elephant" all the way to the Saints marching in. And after that, the transformation to Scout and Guide Uniforms was almost magical, leading to the joyfully loud climax of "Memories" and "Crest of a Wave"! But one or two choruses of each should have been enough. Ralph Reader wrote many other lively singable things, ideal for giving confidence to any nervous youngster, so perhaps next year, might we have just a touch more of the old magician?

Thank you, Gang, anyway, for a very worthwhile evening.

KJ.



# CO-ORDINATOR

## Were You There?

Last night saw the final production of "Gang Show '97", and every member of the crew must agree that this show contained an enormous amount of very special magic which makes being involved in these productions such a joy. Old hands will recognise it, while newcomers cannot fail to appreciate it. From the earliest faltering, stumbling rehearsals - sometimes perfect, more often, chaotic - to that critical dress rehearsal when you finally convince yourself it will all go horribly wrong on the night, that magic is ever-present.

Friendship and laughter are its vital elements, and during the making of "Gang Show '97", we indulged ourselves very well indeed!

Sadly, you may have noticed the poor attendance; given the movement's membership within the Letchworth and Baldock District, why should this be? Perhaps it has something to do with a number of the District's elder Scouters who believe that Gang Shows should be kept in the original style of Ralph Reader. How can we ever hope to swell the numbers of the cast when the District contains Leaders who tell their scouts that "...the Gang Show is, 'a load of rubbish'."

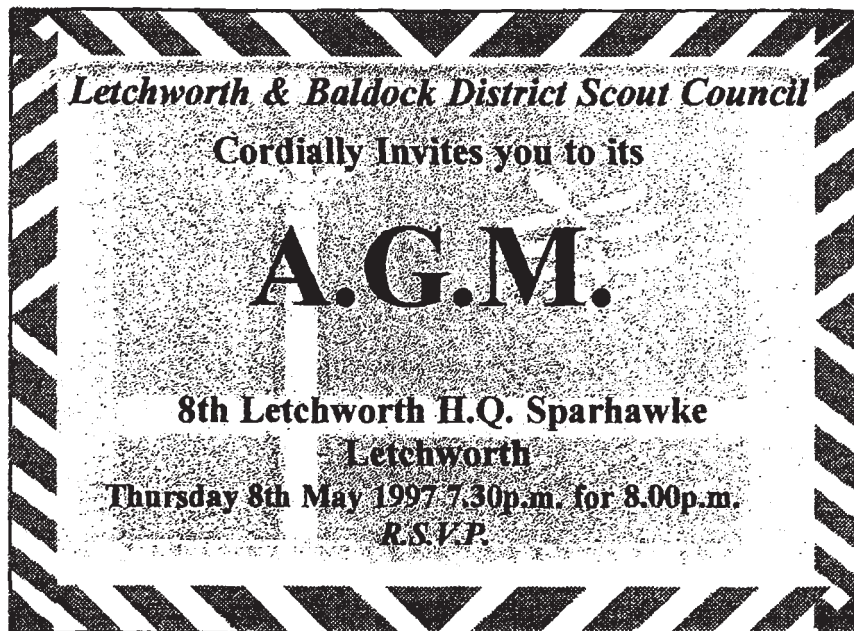
If you were in the audience, why not promise yourself you'll be backstage at the next show. Or out on stage? If you weren't in the audience, why on earth not?

Finally, to all of you involved in this year's production - in whatever capacity - I offer my warmest thanks. If you enjoyed it even half as much as I did, you had a wonderful experience and have gained many, marvellous memories. See you in the next one!

Mike Miles (Scout Fellowship)

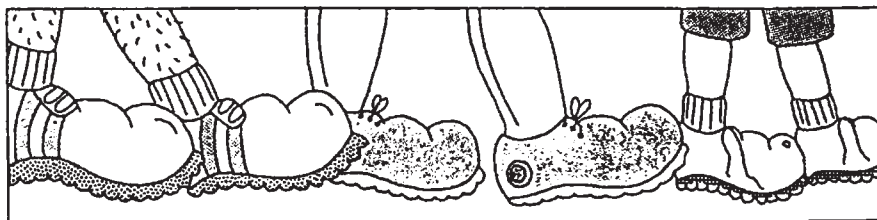
<b>DIARY DATES - DIARY DATES</b>	
<b>APRIL</b>	
2nd	Warrants Meeting - Norton Bury
10th	District Executive Meeting - Norton Bury'
11th-13th	Scout Fellowship Conference - Coventry
12th-13th	Night Jar - Scout Over Night Exercise
16th	District Gang Show AGM - 1st/3rd Letchworth HQ
19th	Rehearsal for St Georges day Parade - Catholic Church, Baldock
20th	St George's Day Parade - Baldock
20th	DEADLINE FOR MAY CO-ORDINATOR
24th	District Scout Leaders Meeting - Norton Bury
25th	2nd Baldock AGM
30th	1st Ashwell AGM
<b>MAY</b>	
2nd-5th	Patrol Activity Weekend - County MEGAPAW - Phasels Wood
7th	Warrants Committee Meeting - Norton Bury
8th	DISTRICT AGM - 8th Letchworth HQ
9th-11th	District Patrol Leaders Weekend - Norton Bury
10th	Idea's Fair - Plinston Hall
12th	District Cub Leaders Meeting - 32 The Rowans
14th	1st/3rd Letchworth AGM
17th	District Beavers Visit to AKLOWA
17th-18th	Operation Fen'et
18th	'The Garden City 15' Charity Walk
18th	DEADLINE FOR JUNE CO-ORDINATOR
19th	1st Baldock AGM
26th-30th	Half Term Holiday





**'THE GARDEN CITY 15'**  
**CHARITY WALK**  
SUNDAY, 18th MAY 1997

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The 15th annual sponsored Charity Walk around the borders  
of Letchworth organised by

***The Rotary Club of Letchworth Garden City***

Fully marshalled with check-points, route map and  
refreshments. Have fun with our help and raise funds for  
your local club, charity or organisation

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*Details from:*  
Rotarian Tim Jeeves  
Telephone: 01462 679274