

Editor : Andrea Soulsby
5 South Close
Baldock
Herts
SG7 6DS
01462-491401

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

AWARDS

Congratulations to Andrea Soulsby (CSL 1st Baldock) who has been awarded the MEDAL OF MERIT for her services with 1st Baldock Cubs and her help at District level where she edits and produces Co-Ordinator, produces the Gang Show and was chair-person of the Jamboree Committee.

Congratulations also go to Tim Jurdon (5th Letchworth) and Alan Wright (District) for gaining the CHIEF SCOUTS COMMENDATION for long and distinguished service in support of Scouting.

WOOD BADGE

Congratulations to Sue Lovelock (CSL 5th Letchworth) and Anne Martin (BL 5th Letchworth) who have been awarded their Wood Badges.

FIFTH LETCHWORTH SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

welcomes you to two talks by former Fifth Scouts on TUESDAY evenings at 8.15pm in 5th Letchworth HQ, Spring Road.

3 JUNE : "ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE JUBILEE LINE" - recent discoveries about London south of the river, with slides and "touchy-feelies", by ALASTAIR GREEN, Archaeology Project Manager at the Museum of London.

1 JULY : "GOODBYE, HONG KONG" - personal anecdotes of a place very much in the news, by ROGER COOPER, operations Manager, Airlines Scheduling Group, ICL.

Free admission : refreshments on sale : collection : everyone welcome.

DISTRICT BBQ

By popular demand the District Barbeque is back for another year. Please make a note in your diary THURSDAY 3rd JULY at Norton Bury. All leaders, helpers, Group Members, family and friends of Scouting are welcome including children.

£2.00 per adult and £1.00 for under 12's will be charged to cover costs (drinks extra)

Tickets can be obtained from Rita Hawkins (01462-491228) or Anne Martin (01462-627439)

Want to brighten up your surroundings free of charge?

Voluntary groups such as Scouts, theatres, churches and community centres can benefit from free paint awarded by the Dulux Community Projects Scheme. Every year Dulux gives away £180, 000 worth of paint. For further details contact the Dulux Community Projects Office, PO Box 343, London WC2E 8RJ

ST GEORGE'S DAY

A fine, sunny Spring day provided the perfect setting for a successful St George's Day Parade and Service. The Catholic Church at Baldock was full to capacity with over 350 Scouts and Leaders. The turnout was smart, the march was impressive, led by the Salvation Army Band and the service was conducted with dignity and humour by Father Robert.

Our thanks to North Herts District Council for planting the flower beds en route with the St George's and St Andrew's crosses.

Thanks also to members of 2nd Baldock Scout Group whose organisation and work behind the scenes ensured the success of the occasion.

NIGHTJAR

This year's Nightjar followed a fifteen mile route through the countryside of Bedfordshire and North Hertfordshire, from the Boyd Field at Henlow to Norton Bury. As well as testing the map reading skills of the seventeen teams which took part; it also involved activities at checkpoints which included first aid, guess the sport, wiring a plug, tying eight knots in a rope and making a tripod capable of hanging a container from it.

The Senior competition was won by Team Fox-trot from 1st Baldock and 7th Letchworth retained the trophy in the Junior competition.

Thanks to Mervyn Templeton for organising the competition and everyone who helped on the night.
Bob Williams - DC

INITIAL MOUNTAINEERING COURSE

Over Easter I took part in the Hertfordshire Scouts Initial Mountaineering Course at Lochearnhead Scout Station in Perthshire, Scotland. I was the only member of the troop who took part in this event but I soon got to know the others and made several new friends. I hope to see all at the reunion weekend in September.

On the course we concentrated on hill-walking, leading up to a three-day expedition. Unfortunately my group only managed a two-day expedition we had to return to the centre for the first night after unusually severe winds (up to 75 mph on the peaks) damaged two of the three tents. Also on this course we did work on ice-axing which was basically ice-axe braking (where you slide down a snow or ice covered slope and use the axe to stop yourself) and ice-axe climbing (where you have two ice-axes and climb up the slope using them as hand grips)

Rope work also featured. In this we did belaying up crags and small rock faces. belaying is supporting the rope so that the person climbing will not fall far if he loses his balance.

The weather was absolutely awful, the worst they have had for this course for years. There were very high winds, snow, rain, hail and fog. In spite of this, the course was still good fun and I enjoyed it and learned a lot of new skills. I hope to go back next year and perhaps some of you will join me.

Nick Brown - Otters APL

(extract from "The Link" - the newsletter for 1st Baldock Scout Troop)

DIARY DATES

JUNE

7th-8th

Icknield Shield - District Scout Event

11th

Warrants Meeting - Norton Bury

12th

District Executive Meeting

13th-15th

District Cub Camp - Norton Bury

13th-15th

Fellowship Camp - Weston, Stevenage

15th

County Cub Canoeing Day

15th

DEADLINE FOR JULY/AUGUST CO-ORDINATOR

26th

District Team Meeting

JULY

3rd

District BBQ - Norton Bury

AUGUST

17th

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER CO-ORDINATOR