

June 1998 No: 439

Co-ordinator

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

WILLIAM JOHN JAMES PACK BORN 8TH NOVEMBER 1927 DIED 3RD MAY 1998

It was with sorrow that we heard the sad news of Bill Pack's death. For over 20 years Bill and Gwen organised Scouting in Ashwell and made its activities a focal point in village life. Many generations of Cubs and Scouts enjoyed the excitement of Scouting under their leadership. Bill loved the stage and played a prominent role in the Gang Show and latterly he was our Badge Secretary.

Bill would have been proud of the Ashwell Cubs, Scouts and Leaders who formed a colour parade at his funeral.

Bill was a character who we will remember with affection and we sign off with the words of Bernard Cohen from the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Bill:-

*A pack of talent our versatile Bill. He's run the scouts with
considerable skill, young at heart, always one of the boys,
enjoyed the fire indifferent to noise.*

*On village hall stage he looks - well, more than his age
with a face that's certain, when it peers round the curtain
to cause great applause.*

*Furthermore this remarkable man, was housewife's choice
at his knock at the door, oh, how they'd rejoice!*

*Morning, evening, late night, blocked drain, dripping tap,
burst pipe would soon be put right.*

NEW LEADERS

The District extends a warm welcome to the following new leaders:

BEAVERS

Brian Huckle ABSL

11th Letchworth

Jo-anne Wilding ABSL

7th Letchworth

CUBS

Rachel Baines CSL

12th Letchworth

DISTRICT BBQ

Please join us at the District BBQ on Thursday 25th June and make the event a resounding success.

We have spent the last month at formal AGM's and now it's time to relax in more informal surroundings - bring family and friends to enjoy the fun.

FUN STARTS AT 7.00pm not 8.00pm as on tickets and posters.

Cost: £4.00 per adult

£2.00 per child, under 12

AWARDS

Long Service Award

This is a decoration for adult Members of the Movement who have completed 15 years faithful and satisfactory service.

Roger Comley - ASL lot 3rd Letchworth & ADC (Fellowship)

Medal of Merit

For outstanding service of not less than fifteen years

John Chapman - ADC (Adult Training)



Chief Scout's Commendation

For specially good service of not less than seven/eight years.

Sue Lovelock - CSL - 5th Letchworth

Chris Lunnon - VSL Bacchus

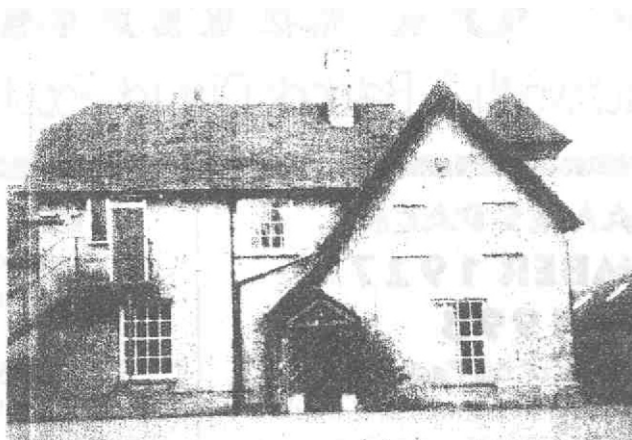
John Speltinckx - Treasurer - 8th Letchworth

Michael Thomason - Treasurer - 12th Letchworth & District Treasurer

NORTON BURY SCOUT AND GUIDE CENTRE

Review of progress and achievements

Work over the year has largely centred around the complete refurbishment of the kitchen by Peter Baker and the clearing, deepening and widening of the moat to give easy access to the water by Colin Phillips aided by folk on Community Service. These two major undertakings apart. Colin Phillips has built an extension to the storage shed specifically to house the pioneering poles.



The caravan has been scrapped and the area at the back of the house opened up in anticipation of acquiring a "Rova" cabin through the kind offices of Phasels Wood. We have planning permission for this cabin and are awaiting the availability of the cabin itself. Chris Page has designed a very professional orienteering course around the site and we hope that it will be in use very shortly.

I know that many young people will enjoy the facility that Chris has provided and we thank him on their behalf. The exterior lighting has been improved. The staff from Phasels Wood kindly undertook a "risk assessment" on our behalf and found nothing of serious concern. However we have an ongoing programme to implement the minor points they raised and are still implementing many of the suggestions made by the Districts as a result of the questionnaire we sent out over 12 months ago. To this end we have installed a wash hand basin in the annex to the activity room and plan to put storage shelving in there shortly. The upstairs toilet has been refurbished and new wardrobes and chairs acquired for the bedrooms. The curtains have been re-hung in the leaders' room and a new carpet laid.

We are currently in negotiation with the Heritage Foundation over the planting of many more trees around the perimeter of the site and the Countryside-Management Service has indicated a willingness to give their advice and assistance.

We are without a service crew and Michael Wright resigned as their leader in consequence. Michael however, continues to give of his time in regard to specific tasks.

Groups using the facilities:

House	Camp Site
28 Brownie Guide Packs	13 Scout Troops
3 Beaver Units.	16 Guide Units
11 Cub Packs.	9 Cub Packs
7 Guide Units	2 Brownie Pack
2 Beaver Colonies	1 Venture Unit
3 Adult Groups (Scout Fellowship, Trefoil Guild and Samaritans)	
5 Schools	2 Duke of Edinburgh Sessions
2 Church Youth Groups	

The centre has also played a part in two Rotary walks, Operation Nightjar. The Icknield Shield. Sports events, B.B.Q's and Firework parties. It is frequently used for evening meetings.

Barbara Crombie

WARDENS

9th - 15th June

Bob Williams Tel: 686727

16th - 22nd June

Shelley Wilsher Tel: 895414

23rd - 29th June

Sheila May Tel: 673427

30th June - 6th July

Dave Hawkins Tel: 491228

7th - 13th July

Peter & Mary Deary Tel: 686859

14th - 20th July

Ann & Ken Lilley Tel: 621271

21st - 27th July

Ken Hart Tel: 622164

28th July - 3rd August

Elaine Wigglesworth Tel: 626218

FEES TO DISTRICT

Manor House - each £2 (min £50)

Kitchen Only - £10

Ground Floor inc. Kitchen - £15

Camping Per Night - 50p

Day visits grounds only - Free

ASHWELL SCOUTS

The Ashwell Scouts are now well on the road to success. Neil Broughton (ACC Scouts) and Chris King (ADC Scouts) invested two leaders and ten Scouts at a recent meeting. Since then the Troop has been camping with the Morden Air Scouts and are holding another camp over the Bank Holiday Week end. It is good to see such enthusiasm amongst the members and we wish them success.

232 BADGES

That's the amazing number of awards, including service stars, which Akela - Sue Lovelock 5th Letchworth - has presented to Cub Scouts in the Pack during the past twelve months.

How many awards has your pack gained in the last twelve months ???

Please let the editor know !!

DISTRICT FISHING COMPETITION



CATCH OF THE DAY
7LB CARP

GONE FISHING !!

The first ever District Fishing Competition was held at Manor Farm Lakes and over twenty Scouts, leaders and parents took part. The photograph shows David Kenyon prize catch but you should have seen the ones that got away! Dave Kenyon, 1st Baldock won the best overall weight from an individual. Ben Smith, 4th Letchworth was runner up. Anthony Whittaker, 4th Letchworth won the adult trophy. The "Mr Harry" Shield was won by 1st Baldock, being the troop with the best overall weight of fish caught.

Thanks to Peter Frankland and Lorraine Robson for organising such a successful event.

COUNTY SIX A SIDE FOOTBALL COMPETITION

2nd Weston were asked by the District Committee to represent the District at the County Football Competition, this was to be held at Lucas Sports Field in Hemel Hempstead. This was gratefully accepted as our Cubs enjoy their football. Notices went out to the Cubs to find out who would like to take part and who would be available to play. The response was great. We organised a couple to training sessions to get the boys to play along side each other and for us to see who would be the ideal candidates.

Training went well and they thoroughly enjoyed it, we really put them through it but they came out at the end still wanting to play. Our team virtually picked itself as there were one or two Cubs that had to drop out. We had eight Cubs, enough for the challenge that lay ahead. Saturday morning on the day of the competition we arrived early and decided to have a warm up, the weather was superb and the sun was shining from early on. Our first game was against St Albans, this was a tense first game and after a lot of end to end attacking we came away losing 3-0. The boys were clearly upset and down in the dumps but we roused them by telling them how well they had played. The second game was against Hemel Hempstead, this was a tough game, hard tackles going in from both sides, we were one goal down at half time, we put on two subs and rallied the spirits of the boys and they went straight out and scored. The game ended 1-1, a good result and they were now on a high. Third games was against Bishops Stanford, they have won the competition for the last few years and we knew they were the team to beat. It was once again a hard fought game and was full of skill from both teams, the tackles went in hard and both played out of their socks. It finished 0-0 but was one of the most entertaining games so far. Along came North Watford, they were having a rough ride and had not won a game as yet, we were one step ahead of them so this was put to our team as a lifter - it worked, we came away as 1-0 winners following another hard game. even though we won it had to be painstakingly put together with good skill and patience. We were faced with the might of Welwyn Garden City, they Were unbeaten and a force to be reckoned with, we gave our usual pep talk, relaxed the boys and sent them into battle. This was the game that we needed to win to have the possibility of going through. The Cubs played like true professionals and worked very hard, they ground out a 0-0 score and praise from all those who stood and watched. Welwyn were taken apart but could not be finished off. 2nd Weston rained the shots in from all parts of the pitch. Our goalkeeper - Ben Wilson produced saves his namesake - Bob Wilson - would have been proud of. He kept us within sight of that elusive victory. We prayed the ref would forget to look at his watch but to our dismay he looked.....he blew for full time and we were out. We tried so hard and got so near but fell,

We were out of the competition, we were edged out by only one point, the boys were upset and wondered if only. We picked them up dusted them down and said that they had all played very well, we were proud of them and the rest of the District would be to. They were still numb but understood that they proved that we will be back to get our trophy. Our team was as follows:- Ben Wilson, Edward Moys, Robert Bassham, Robert Darnell, Hugh Napier, Ben Pidgeon, Chris Amoss and Ben Adams. They all played very well and they would like to hand out the challenge to any Cub Pack in the District to come and play a game of football against the District representatives.

Simon Tierney

DIARY DATES

JUNE 1998

- 2nd Scout Shop Opens
- 3rd District Team Meeting - 53 Hawthorn Hill
- 3rd Appointments Committee - Norton Bury
- 8th District Cub Camp Meeting
- 11th District Scout Troop (Freeman House)
- 11th District Executive Meeting
- 12th 7th Letchworth 60th Anniversary
- 12th 4th Letchworth AGM
- 12th-14th National Scout Fellowship Annual Camp
- 13th Beaver County Fun Day - Tolmers
- 15th Scout Leaders Meeting
- 16th Deadline for Co-Ordinator
- 19th-21st District Cub Camp- Weston
- 25th District DBQ - All welcome
- 26th-28th 25-40 Mile Walk - Monmouth

JULY 1998

- 1st Appointments Committee
- 2nd District Scout Troop - Norton Bury BBQ
- 3rd-5th MEGAPAW - Phasels Wood
- 6th County AGM - Hertford
- 9th District Executive Meeting
- 10th 1st 3rd Letchworth Quiz Night
- 12th Minibus Assessments - Norton Bury
- More details to follow next month.**
- 15th District Beavers Bangers & Bash

GANG SHOW '98

The cast from Gang Show '98 have now gone 'on tour' and are doing a series of 12 concerts at residential homes around Letchworth and Baldock. We have just completed our first concert at Temple Court in Baldock. It was great to see the folk enjoying our singing and afterwards seeing the younger members of the gang talking with them over sandwiches and cakes. I was beginning to wonder who is going to benefit the most out of these concerts? It was also lovely to find out that some of the old folk were once involved with 1st Baldock and 1st 3rd Letchworth Scout Groups.

Looking to the future plans are now well underway for Gang Show '99 - which will be at Plinston Hall 26th - 27th March 1999. See you there

See you there!

AROUND THE AGM'S

This has been a busy month for AGM's.

1st Ashwell led the way. They said goodbye to Clive Godfrey who has been their treasurer and a stalwart of the Group for the last eight years. A new enthusiastic committee led by Barbara White has been elected and they start off with the good news of the resurgence of the Scout Troop. Parents at 5th Letchworth were entertained by the Cubs with Wizzy Water World. Wood Badges were presented to Nick Farmer, Dean Lovelock and Stephanie Williams. They were supported by members of their Scout Fellowship and the meeting finished with refreshments - thanks Sue. Steve Eaves, the Treasurer at 7th Letchworth also resigned and was thanked for his service. after the formal part of the meeting there was a quiz. At 8th Letchworth, Daniel Eve was presented with the Beaver Scout Challenge - the first in the Colony and John Speltinckx was congratulated on gaining the Chief Scout's Commendation, Carol Power who is resigning at ACSL was thanked for her help over the last nine years.

At 1st Baldock Long Service Awards were presented to Doris Ward and Andrea Soulsby and a presentation made to Chris and Clive Parr. A barbecue which followed was interrupted by a thunderstorm.

1st 3rd held a cheese and wine evening.

Peter Burgess, a founder member was at the 12th Letchworth where Mike Thomason was congratulated on his Chief Scouts Commendation.

Section reports at all meetings showed a full and exciting programme of events.

There was an overall impression that it is getting more difficult to recruit adults at all levels. The District is able to help with advice and promotional materials so please make adult recruitment a priority and ask for help - also do not forget the services of the Scout Fellowship.

Distributed by:

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout

Council

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