



November 1998 No: 443

Co-ordinator

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

Colin Phillips 1929-1998

Colin devoted 56 years of his life to Scouting.

The Scout Promise and Law were the sure foundation upon which Colin based his life.

It is the commitment and enthusiasm of people like Colin which has maintained steadfast the core values of Scouting at a time when the Movement has had to adapt to the changing values of our time.

Colin was invested as a Scout in 1942 when he joined the 3rd Letchworth Scout Troop. At the time it was combined with the 1st and 6th Letchworth Groups and meeting at the British Legion Hall and the Military was using our HQ in Icknield Way. He gained his King's Scout Award in 1946 and was proud to attend the St George's Day Parade at Windsor when the salute was taken by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth and their daughters Elizabeth and Margaret.

National Service interrupted his Scouting for two years but he returned to be Scout Leader at the 7th Letchworth and eventually he moved to the Venture Scout Section where he helped form Champion Hills VSU.

He was able to pass on his skills when he was invited to join the County Leader Training Team and he had the privilege of tutoring at Gilwell Park - our National HQ

His name became associated with our District Arts and Crafts Competition, the It's a Knock Out competition which he developed and ran so successfully and his work at the Norton Bury Scout and Guide Activity Centre.

Colin was an energetic person who loved outdoor physical activities and many generations have enjoyed camping, hiking, climbing and pioneering under his leadership.

He asked nothing in return but the satisfaction of seeing a shy Scout become an active patrol leader or the look of triumph on the face of a Scout who has just completed, near to the limits of physical endurance a long hike, difficult climb or camp in atrocious weather conditions.

He was content in the knowledge that he was helping young people develop their physical, mental and spiritual awareness.

The Scout Association recognised his contributions by awarding him a Long service Decoration, the Medal of Merit and the Silver Acorn.

DC's address at Memorial Service held on Monday 12th October at St Thomas Church.

Eileen, Sharon and Chris would like to thank everyone who sent messages of sympathy and donations to the Lister Stroke Club.

It was fitting for him to have such a lovely "Thanksgiving" with all his family, friends, scouting, brothers and guiding sisters there to say their farewells. This was much appreciated by all his family. Colins ashes have been scattered with his parents and sister also in the chapel area at Norton Bury where he spent much of his time during the last two years working tirelessly for the boys and girls of the future

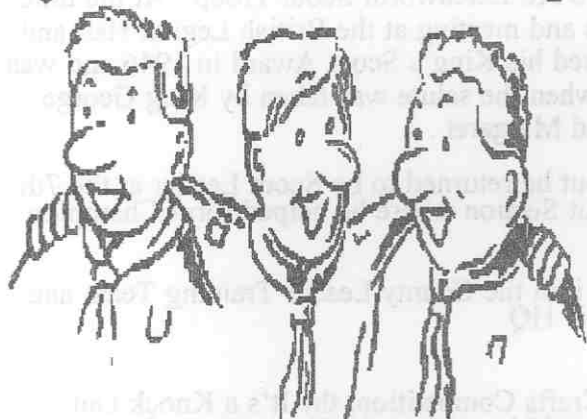
Go Well Go Safely

The Lister Hospital Stroke Fund

Eileen has asked that contributions in memory of Colin be made to the Lister Hospital Stroke Club. The District has opened a fund and individual contributions can be sent either to the DC or the District Treasurer (cheques made payable to the District)

The Fund will remain open until the end of November.

The Scout Fellowship



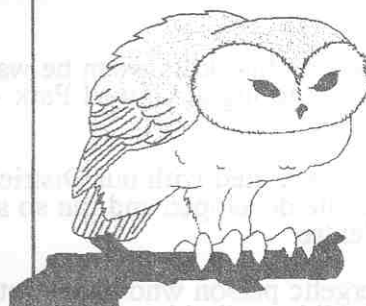
A well attended meeting welcomed Tony Freeman (County Scout Fellowship Adviser) and members of the Bishops Stortford Fellowship. A Minutes' silence was held in memory of Bill Pack and Colin Phillips.

During the year we collected and packed shoe boxes with small gifts, then wrapped them for the Care Albania Christmas parcel scheme. We took them to Ann Watkins who has collected over 100 from other local organisations and they were packed into a 38 ton articulated truck along with other much needed goods and driven to Albania in time for Christmas.

The Gang Show and Laurie's Plant day were both very successful and thanks must be given to the members who helped at both events. Although not such a hot day as last year at Laurie's it was a lot better for the cake stall and we did very well. We participated in several other activities during the year and helped with the Water events at 5th Letchworth, the District BBQ and the Beavers Sports Day.

The Social side has been fairly successful this year, with the Christmas Dinner in February. Some of us went to Stevenage Theatre and enjoyed the play. We have been asked to repeat the event. We arranged a trip to Duxford in September and a Magic/Supper evening will be held in November. We are always open to ideas for visits and meetings and we are also open to all members of Scouting to join in at any time. What we need is more members so we have a good reserve to call upon when we are asked for our assistance. This is what we are here for, so please ask us if you need help.

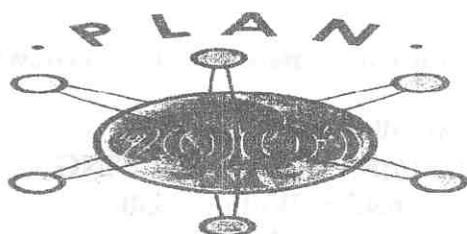
Finally I am pleased to record that Fred Cogar is making a recovery from his Heart Attack and that Denis Whelan and Ken Johnson are feeling much better.



After the meeting there were refreshments and then a most interesting and informative talk was given by George Duncalf

of Raptor Rescue. He told us of the dangers faced by birds of prey birds and how his voluntary organisation came to their rescue, and cared for them until they could be returned to the wild. They were successful in over fifty per cent of their cases.

The highlight of the evening was the display of three beautiful birds - a little owl, a barn owl and a European Eagle Owl. George warned is that in spite of the attraction of these birds they do not make good pets as they do not relate to humans in the same way as domestic animals. He urged us to enjoy them in the wild and not keep them as pets.



TROOP EXPERIENCE

Troop experience covers all the activities that Scouts do whilst they are with the Troop on evenings and weekends. This covers the majority of the time that a Scout is with the Scout Section and this part of Plan 2001 is about helping to improve the **quality** of the Troop experience and therefore the **quantity** of Scouts. We are looking at two areas at the moment.

- * Programme planning
- * Camping

Plan 2001 explains an easy way of planning your Troop Meetings. This method is very simple and uses the Patrol Leaders' Council to run the process. Scouts join your Troop to try out loads of different activities and most of them want to go camping. Results from research for the Programme Review Group show weekend camps as the most popular activity and that nearly 80% of adults class camping as very important for the Section. We are looking at trying to find ways of making it easier for you to do all this with your Scouts. Later in there will also be ideas on how to make camp planning easier. The Scout Section wants many more Scouts to take part in camps. To help with this it will be sharing ideas from some really great District and County/Area camps around the country and making this information available so that your District, County or Area can copy these.

(Scouting Magazine - Launchpad)

NORTON BURY WARDENS

Commencing

3rd November	Ruth & Peter Baker	682752
10th November	Anne & John Chapman	686772
17th November	Michael Wright	679789
24th November	Dave Hawkins	643432

1st December	Janet Castle	677297
8th December	John Moys	487847
15th December	Gwen Keech	894512

CUBS INVADE BIRMINGHAM

Three coaches and the District minibus were commandeered to take 180 Cubs, Leaders and Helpers to The Sea Life Centre in Birmingham on Sunday 18th October 1998.

The outing was arranged as part of the Wizzy Water Wise Project being undertaken by the Cub Section.

We all met at the Arena car park in Letchworth at 9.30 am, then onto the coaches and away on time at 10.00am (who said we always run late ?)

The convoy went across country to the M1 then on the M6 into Birmingham City Centre, arriving at noon. From the coaches we had a short walk along the canal to the Sea Life Centre.

We were welcomed by the Manager. All the Cubs by now wanted to eat, so we had lunch. 3D glasses and a quiz sheet were given to each Cub, the glasses were used to find the questions, as we went round, to answer the quiz.

Having eaten our lunch it was time to walk round the centre, as we entered each Pack had their photograph taken on the giant Octopus.

We saw all kinds of fish and sea creatures. At the Ray tank, a member of the Sea Life Centre staff gave us a ten minute talk on the different Rays in the tank. In another part of the Centre the Cubs were allowed to handle, touch and feel crabs and other crustaceans.

A number of Packs went into the 3D cinema and watched, with the special headset, a film about the stages a water droplet goes through before reaching our taps. There were also a number of hands on environmental displays on the use of water.

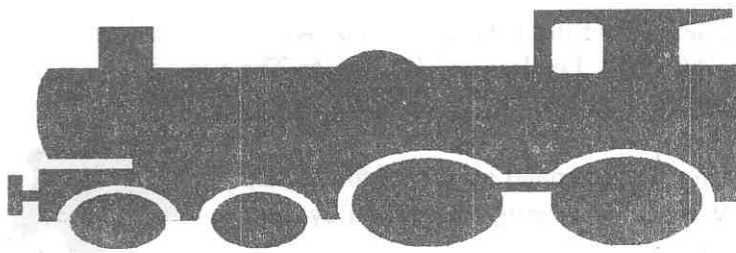
The last part of the tour took us down to the large walk through tank with the larger fish and sharks in it. Then into the shop so that the Cubs, Leaders and Helpers could spend their money.

We rounded up all the Cubs and walked back to the coaches and left Birmingham at 3.30pm, arriving back in Letchworth at 5.30 pm.

We all thoroughly enjoyed our day out. Thanks to all the Leaders and Helpers for giving up their Sunday to take the Cubs. Thanks also to Sue Lovelock for arranging the Outing and Nick Farmer for driving the Mini bus.

D Hawkins ADC (Cubs)

MORE...



LOCHEARNHEAD 2001

An inaugural meeting for our Lochearnhead expedition in 2001 was held under the chairmanship of Nick Farmer.

It is hoped that as many Scouts and Ventures as possible will attend the expedition which will take place during the middle two weeks of the Summer holiday. It is anticipated that there will be two Groups of 70 attending for a week at a time.

It was agreed that we would only be able to make the best use of the facilities if Scouts and Leaders were properly trained beforehand. With this in mind a two year training programme of mountain and water activities will be devised.

Nick will appoint teams to lead each activity by Christmas and these teams will devise training programmes to be announced by April 1999. These will make use of existing County Training Programmes supplemented where necessary by District events.

Letchworth & Baldock Scout Fellowship

Cordially invite you to a
SUPPER / MAGIC EVENING
to be held at Wilbury Hall,
Bedford Road Letchworth
Saturday 21st November 1998
7.30 pm for 8.00 pm.



R.S.V.P. to Mrs Margaret Durrant
58 Monklands, Letchworth
01462 624731

£5.00 Each

Come along and have a Fun Evening
Please bring your own drinks



Sue Lovelock (CSL) and Lesley Farmer

HIT THE BEACH

Beaches all round this Isle were invaded today (Sunday 20th September.) Thousands of Cub Scouts from across the land descended upon "British Beaches" with their rubber gloved hands and, with thanks to Readers Digest, plenty of blue plastic sacks. As part of their "Water Wize" project the Cubs set about finding and removing, if possible, the litter that was infesting our shores! The Fifth Letchworth Cub Scouts were not the only pack to descend on Walton On The Naze in Essex. There was a pack from Colchester and there may have been more.

The objective was to collect rubbish and record in detail a short section of the beach, rather than a large stretch and risk missing some of the rubbish, which would have resulted in false information being collected.

After completing their task it was time to play. Akela, Sue Lovelock and Lesley Farmer removed both shoes and socks, then cooled their aching feet in the sea while the rest of the Pack chose to fully immerse themselves in the sea.

An enjoyable and worthwhile day was had by all.

Nick L Farmer GSL Fifth Letchworth

MORE...

NIGHTJAR '98



Gales, high winds and driving rain led travel organisations to warn travellers do not set out unless their journey was really necessary.

Fourteen teams of Scouts wanted to win the Nightjar trophy so much that they set off into the countryside around Cottered in pursuit of their quest. They followed a circular route towards Weston and in most cases managed to navigate it successfully. On the way they were faced with challenges such as tying knots, pitch a tent, (impossible in a gale), answering general knowledge questions and eating biscuits to renew their energy.

Congratulations to 7th Letchworth (Matt Hindley, Claire Dinmore and Robert Eaves) who won the Senior event and 8th Letchworth (Carl Gibson, Nicholas Cater, James Alford, Alex Pitt and Tom Anderson) who won the Junior event.

Thanks to Meryvn Templeton for organising the event and all Leaders who helped make it so successful.



Norton Bury Scout & Guide Activity Centre Charges from 1st April 1999

	Within District		Outside District		Non Scouts or Guides	
	Each	Min	Each	Min	Each	Min
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Manor House over night	2.20	55.00	3.60	90.00	4.50	112.50
Day Rate						
- Kitchen only		12.00		22.00		22.00
- Ground Floor & Kitchen		17.50		35.00		35.00
Camping	0.55		0.80		0.80	
Ground only	Free		0.60		0.60	

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District Beavers Sports Day



After a very sunny start on Saturday morning, 26th September 1998 it started to get cloudy after lunch-time. I am sure that a few people were anxiously looking up into the sky and said "No rain please!"

Our wish was granted. 67 Beavers turned up with their parents to enjoy the District Sports Day at Norton Bury. Julie Speltinckx and I would like to thank everybody, Leaders and parents for all their help and support on that day. I am sure all the boys enjoyed themselves, gave their best and even their brothers and sisters in the last race and of course not forgetting the parents race with a few tumbles. We would also like to thank the Fellowship for making the afternoon even more enjoyable by serving up tea/coffee and orange juice and of course for the money raised from the raffle. We will be able to buy a new trophy with the money.

I would like to congratulate every Beaver Colony for taking part and especially 8th Letchworth Colony for coming first and winning the trophy, 4th Letchworth Colony for coming second and 1st Baldock Thursday Colony for coming third.



Sonja Hall
(ABSL 1st Baldock Tuesday)

Mountineering Roadshow

Kim Henson and the Lochearnhead mountain roadshow will be visiting the 8th Letchworth HQ, Sparhawke, Letchworth on TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER at 7.30pm - 9.00pm.

Everyone welcome ! Come along and see what's on offer.



MORE...

Keep Control

One of the most frequently asked questions on training courses concerns how to maintain discipline in the Colony, Pack or Troop. It takes a little work and effort to set up some ground rules but is well worth the effort in the long term.

This is not intended to be a definitive guide but simply advice on what does work for many Leaders.

Sanctions or deprivation seem to be worthwhile methods to employ. We must assume that youngsters join Scouting because they like what they can do in Scouting. If misbehaviour stops them doing what they like, the message can, quickly, get through. The secret is not to do it too frequently or they can become disenchanted with Scouting and, more to the point, with you!

Barring youngsters from a favourite activity is effective and they should modify their behaviour to prevent a reoccurrence.

One favourite method to get silence is for the Leader to raise his or her hand in the air and when the youngsters see this, they, too, must become silent and raise their hand. This has a cumulative effect as youngsters note others raising their hand, catch on, and follow the action. Leaders must not do anything until all hands are raised and silence reigns. This is a subtle form of deprivation which affords the Leader a chance to point out that the youngsters are wasting their time, not the Leader's time as the Leader is there anyway. It will only take two or three occasions for the message to get through and, often the other youngsters will make sure those who are carrying on stop and raise their hands.

Another Method is to speak in a normal conversational way so that the youngsters have to be quiet and listen properly to hear. If they make a noise, they won't hear. It's as simple as that and will take a couple of occasions to get the message over to them. Don't be tempted to repeat what you've said as that will defeat the purpose. If they're not quiet enough to hear what you say ... it's their loss!

There is a great advantage in having an inter-Six or inter-Patrol competition running continuously through each Meeting as loss of points for misbehaviour or creating in games can have a very salutary effect, especially if it affects a long term competition for the Lodge, Six or Patrol over a year or term.

Sending youngsters out of the room or out of the action is another option which can have mixed results as, often, they misbehave and distract the others whilst the exclusion lasts.

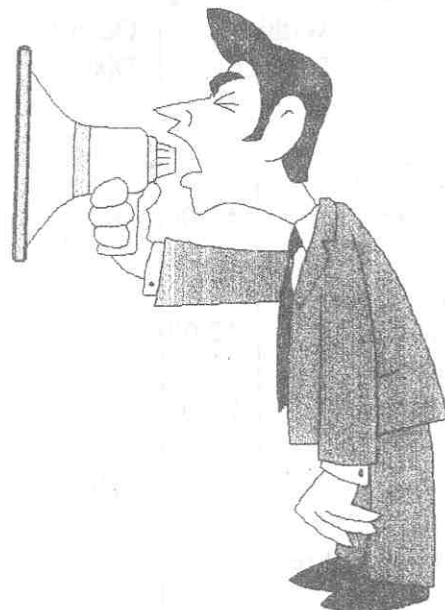
Shouting or blowing a whistle can be counterproductive and very wearing on a Leader. It is far better to have silent control by the hand-raising method or to speak in a normal voice and let the youngsters realise that they have to be quiet and pay attention if they want to hear instructions or an announcement.

Your greatest weapon is that the youngsters come to you do to things that they like because they want to do them and they lose out if they are not able to do them because of misbehaviour or lack of discipline. You don't want to alienate the, you simply want control so that they can play their games or do their thing and do it all safely and most effectively.

Keeping discipline is not as difficult as it seems to some.

One thing is to ensure that all Leaders adopt the same course of action - a united front - don't argue among themselves in front of the youngsters and don't put themselves in a position where one Leader can be played off against another.

Above all, keep control at all times as it will be your benefit as well as to the benefit of your youngsters and the quality of Scouting that you provide.



MORE...

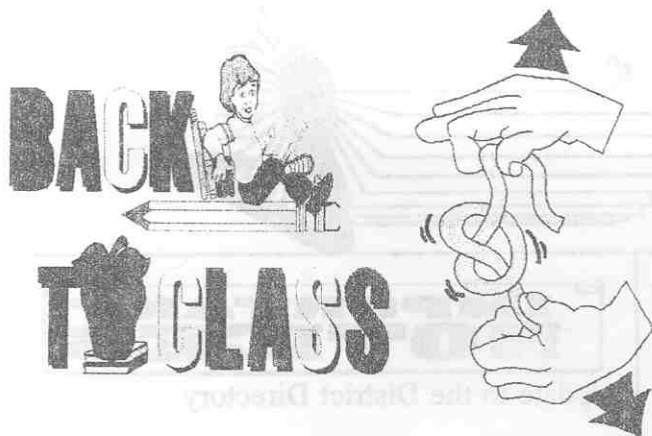
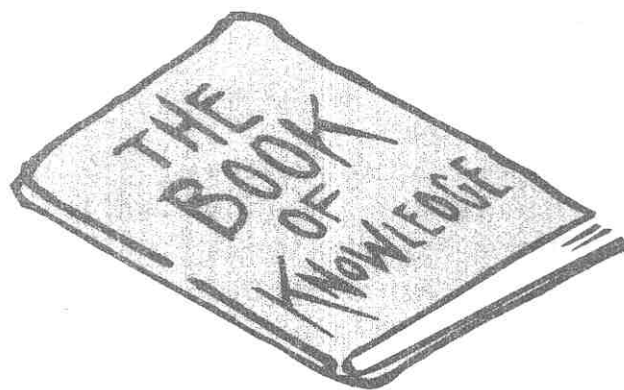
"GIVE AND TAKE"

LEADERS SKILLS DAY

Venue: County Guide Centre, Cottered

Date: Saturday 28th November 1998

Time: 10.00am to 4.00pm

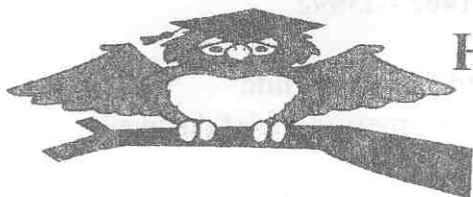


This is an opportunity to share your ideas with Leaders from the other Sections and learn from others.

Phase 1 and 2 Training sessions will be available during both the morning and afternoon sessions.

A hot midday meal will be provided.

Please let Bob Williams know by 21st November if you will be attending.



Hertfordshire Adult Training 1999

Phase 3
All sections Sunday 31st January + 28th February
Saturday 27th February + 27th March
Sunday 26th September + 31st October
Saturday 23rd October + 27th November

Phase 4
Venture Scout 26th/27th June
+ 8th/9th/10th October
+ 7th November

Phase 4
Beaver Scout Saturday 25th September + 16th October +
Sunday 21st November + 28th November
(4 short days)

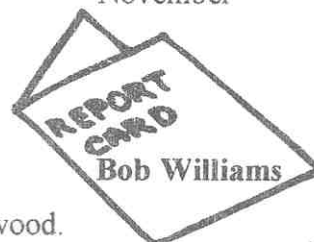
Phase 5
All sections 2nd February + 20th/21st
March OR
10th May + evenings
TBA OR
25th Sept + 6th/7th
November

Phase 4
Cub Scouts 12th/13th/14th March + 7th/8th/9th May

Phase 4
Scouts 19th/20th June + 11th/12th September +
9th/10th October

Please contact John Chapman, ADC (Adult Training) for more details and a booking form. All training takes place at Well End, near Borehamwood.

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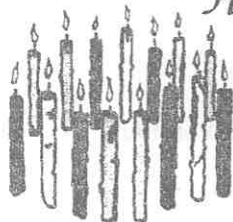
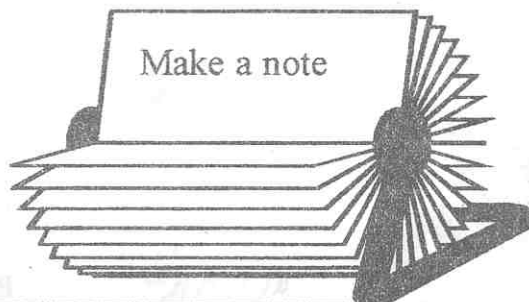
DIARY DATES

November

4th Appointments Committee
5th District Scouts
9th District Cub Leaders Meeting
10th Mountaineering Roadshow - 8th Letchworth HQ
12th District Executive Meeting
13th - 15th County Green Beret
19th District Scout Leaders Meeting
20th District Cub Quiz
21st Magic evening/supper - Fellowship
25th Bacchus VSU Wide Game - Scouts
26th District Team Meeting
27th District Scout Quiz
28th District Skills Day

December

2nd Appointments Committee
3rd District Scout Troop
10th District Executive Meeting
26th Jamboree Contingent Leaving for Chile



HAPPY 90th ANNIVERSARY BALDOCK

The 1st and 2nd Baldock Scout Groups joined forces to celebrate 90 years of Scouting in the town.

The Revd John Stone conducted an anniversary celebration at St Mary's Church on Friday 16th October which was well attended by Group Members, Ex-Scouts and Guests. During the service Colours were presented and Scouts and Leaders gave a presentation of the history of Scouting in Baldock.

Afterwards guests from County and past Scouts were entertained to camp fire songs and a pictorial display of Scouting in Baldock over the years.

There was animated conversation as past members recognised themselves on old photographs and swapped stories and memories in bygone days - the thrill of Scouting is timeless.

Highlight of the evening was the cutting of the 90th birthday cake by candle light.

Distributed by:
The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council

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IMPORTANT NOTICES

Update to the District Directory

Andrea Soulsby (CSL) 1st Baldock
Tele : 01462 643992

Mark and Barbara White
SL and Chairperson of 1st Ashwell

24 Biggleswade Road
Dunton
Biggleswade
Bedfordshire

Tele: 01767 316642

E-mail comes to the District Directory

If you want your e-mail address to be included in the District Directory please send it to Alan Wright, 193 Nevells Road, Letchworth SG6 4TZ

Tele: 01462 685768

or e-mail Rita Hawkins at

david.hawkins@net.ntl.com