



June 1999 No: 450

# Co-ordinator

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

## LONG SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to the following for achieving the Long Service Award

- |          |   |  |
|----------|---|--|
| 40 Years | - | Ken Johnson  |
| 25 Years | - | Tim Jurdon and Alan Wright   |
| 15 Years | - | Mick Balls, Jean Campbell, Mike Durrant, Joan Ludford<br>David & Jill Palfreyman, Sheila Sims, Ron Smith,<br>Phil Taylor, Michael Thomason and John Wright |

## AROUND THE AGM's

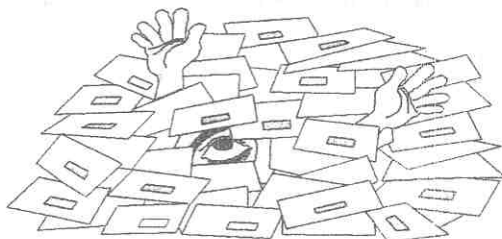
A feature of the Ashwell AGM was the presentation of two new awards for Endeavour. The Scout Section award was presented in memory of Bill Pack and was won by Daniel Huggins and the Cub Award was presented by Mark Simmons. It was a trophy brought back from his visit to the World Jamboree in Canada and was awarded to Chris Betts. Barbara White resigned as Chairperson and has been succeeded by Rita Lewis.

At 5th Letchworth AGM Tim Jurdon resigned as treasurer after many, many years service to the Group. As a mark of honour the Group has appointed Tim as its President. Jim Martin also resigned as Chairman and was thanked for his leadership. We wish success to the new chairman and treasurer - Paul & Pat Byrne. The meeting was entertained by the Cubs and the evening closed with a sumptuous buffet.

The 7th Letchworth AGM was followed by a beetle drive. During the meeting Mandy Woolmer resigned her fund raising role but disappointment was more than offset by the fact that she is going into uniform as an Assistant Cub Leader.

Adam May was congratulated on his Chief Scout's Award at 1st 3rd AGM. The meeting closed with cheese and wine and a talk by Simon Templeton on his experiences at the World Jamboree in Chile.

2nd Baldock celebrated awards to leaders and Scouts. Mick Dilley has been awarded the Bar to the Medal of Merit and Rita Hawkins has gained her Wood Badge. Four Scouts have gained the Chief Scouts' Award - Stephen Hawkins, David Jenkins, Jennifer Martin and James Toal. The meeting was entertained by the adventures of Bertie the Beaver.



Bob Williams  
District Commissioner

The Guides have been given a large number of good quality stainless steel cooking trays.  
Suitable for camp / altar fire / BBQ cooking or a large oven.

10 - 10" x 13" x 4" (deep) }  
12 - 21" x 13" x 4" (deep) } some with  
12 - 21" x 13" x 6" (deep) } lids

2 steamers suitable for keeping food hot  
21" x 13" x 2 (deep)

They are at the Guide Hall, Icknield Way.

If you can make use of any of these please contact Sheila May 01462 673427

*No burden is too heavy  
no way is too long  
If your hope is high  
and your faith is strong*

## The KJ Diaries

Ken Johnson, Scout editor of "HSG" reading LIVE from his own archive of **original medieval manuscripts** recording in intimate detail the circumstances of certain Scouting events personally witnessed by himself during the past forty two years

WEDNESDAY'S AT 7.30pm AT FIFTH  
LETCHWORTH SCOUT HQ, SPRING ROAD.

9 June	Roundup - searching for scattered Scouts 1960 -1961
14 July	First at Lochearnhead - entirely new experiences 1963 -1964
4 August	With SEVENTH and EIGHTH Canterbury pilgrims 1964 Jamboree Cymru 1965

**Admission 50p all proceeds for  
Fifth Letchworth Scout Group**



## The Scout Fellowship

**Fellowship Challenge Trophy.** On the 15th May we challenged Stevenage Fellowship to a Beetle Drive. It was a very enjoyable evening attended by 17 Members from Letchworth and 14 from Stevenage. After a very hectic 18 beetles with an interval for a fish and chip supper, I am sorry to say Stevenage retained the trophy by 176 points. We promise to do better next year.

We are arranging a trip to **Stondon Transport Museum** on the 17th July. There are vintage and classic cars and motorcycles and also a replica of HMS Endeavour as well as the garden centre. If anyone in Scouting would like to join us, with family and friends, please contact me on 01462 624731. The cost is £3 per adult £1.50 child or family ticket for £7.

In November we hope to go to **Turners in Northampton** for either the Musical Hall with afternoon tea on the 7th or Christmas Carols with tea on the 14th, both Sundays. If we can get a party of 24 or more the cost will be £10 plus coach. If any of you in Scouting would like to come along please contact me on the above number. The Music Hall seems to be the most popular at the moment. As they get booked very quickly please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to come.

Margaret Durrant  
Fellowship Secretary

# Venture Scout Supplement

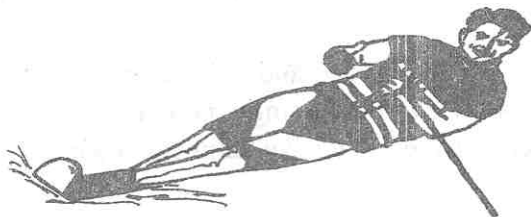
## BEECH SPRINGS ACTIVITY REPORT FOR 1998 - 99

### MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Trailer - originally a donation from British Aerospace and £175 from the District. The trailer was completely rebuilt and spruced up by the Venture Unit and now has become a familiar sight at all our camping events. The Unit have named it 'The Mother' presumably because it is so big.
2. Web Site - conceived by David (Doc) Hall and Adrian Lai. The site now contains hundreds of photos and even the promotion video for the Unit and gained an award from ScoutNet as one of the best sites they had seen.
3. 40 mile walk - Nic (Gumby) Brown and Anthony (Baz) Haskins achieved the full 40 miles whilst several of us did 25 miles.
4. District Gang Show - what started as a couple of members involvement turned out to be most of the Unit - in the show or assisting back stage and with lighting. It is now firmly in our programme of events.
5. Peak Assault 99 - managed to send two teams this year and finished in the top half
6. Unit growing fast (13 to 25) - achieved critical mass and have new people turning up most weeks
7. New Leaders - Beech Springs welcomes Paula Dilley, Brian Rossendale, Rita Hawkins and Sue King - and boy do we need them !
8. Open Night at Norton Bury - an interesting night which all the Ventures enjoyed and recruited one member but we now have all the posters and pictures and promotion material to enable road shows to Scout Troops in the District. Visited 8th Letchworth in March.

### WEEKENDS AND EXPO

1. Water Skiing weekends - probably the most popular way to spend a weekend with two days in Walesby Forest and water skiing at Holmpierpoint, the National Watersports Centre in Nottingham.
2. Canoe slalom '98 - won the Venture section in '98 coming 1st, 2nd and 3rd.
3. Expo to Anglesey - the usual mixture of activities, camping, mountains, bike riding, swimming, late nights and late mornings.
4. Visit to Ireland - Day trip to Dublin as part of the Anglesey expo to achieve overseas badge for those that came.
5. Birthday Party - Beech Springs 21st held in Baldock Town Hall.
6. Mountaineering at Lochearnhead - Tim and Frazer did their advanced mountaineering course over the Christmas holidays.
7. Gilwell Gathering - took 23 Ventures and came 2nd in the round London Monopoly Challenge and a great time was had by all
8. Fund raising for 1st Baldock HQ - Car wash as well as helping directly in building and site preparation we also aided them in car wash and donated £160 from the 40 mile walk sponsorship.
9. Helped with County Green Beret Competition - ran the 'It's a Knock Out' part of the 2 day County event.
10. St. George's day parade - 18 Venture and Leaders turned out, 3 of whom carried the St George's Flag.



## ACTIVITIES

1. **Swimming**
2. **Bowling**
3. **Dry Slope Skiing**
4. **Basketball**
5. **Swimming Pool Party** - hired Letchworth Leisure Centre on a Saturday evening for a pool full of fun and games.
6. **Blind Drop** - drop two teams of Ventures anywhere you like with maps and clues and wait for them to return.
7. **Golf**
8. **Rounders + BBQ**
9. **Iraq war debate**
10. **Egg Drop** - devise a machine to protect a raw egg from breaking after falling from the top of 1st Baldock flag pole
11. **Scavenger Hunt**
12. **Lazer Quest**

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

1. Elections - help with collecting election boxes from cars as they arrive for the evening count. This is done in full uniform and is a good advert for Venture Scouting as well as raising funds.
2. Baldock Christmas lights - put up and take down Christmas lights along the High Street and Whitehorse Street - only time in the year when it snows!!!
3. Poppy appeal - Ventures door to door on behalf of the Poppy Day Appeal
4. Christmas Carols at old peoples home - sang to the residents of a Bedford Retirement home
5. Baldock Festival - helped take down the stalls and clear away.

## BACCHUS VENTURE SCOUTS

The last year has been a good one for our Venture Unit with an increase in numbers and an exciting programme of events.

The Unit has started climbing session on a regular basis and we have now noticed a significant improvement in all members abilities.

We have been on two organised London Walks - a Jack the Ripper Tour and also a London Ghost Walk. These are excellent evenings and always enjoyed. We have a private walk planned for the near future.

We visited the Vauxhall Car Plant in October. Everybody enjoyed a guided tour and all decided that they would definitely not be buying a Vauxhall Vectra in future !!!

We went on a night mountain bike ride which turned out to be more difficult and daring than most imagined.

The last weekend in November saw us take a trip to Birchover in the Derbyshire Dales for a weekend of walking and this was the start of our Peak Assault preparation.

During the year two of the Assistant Leaders married and I'm sure we can expect the sound of little footprints and an increasing number of Beavers, Cubs etc., in the near future. We also saw Fiona moving away to Shropshire and wished her well.

This year we have also organised a Wide Game for the entire District Scouts and this was held on Norton Common and run by Graham Boar and Tom Merry as the final part of their Venture Scout Award which they have now been presented with.

Nine Venture Scouts attended a First Aid course which was organised and held in our HQ to obtain a medic first aid certificate, so they can now obtain form M Mountaineering certificates.

Peak Assault this year was held in the Lake District near Ullswater where we achieved the highest position for any group in North Hertfordshire, third. Congratulations to Graham Boar, Tom Merry, Robert Millburn, Richard Harrison and Michael James. We also achieved excellent positions with our Junior boys team 36th and an all girls team 44th. We hope that all these teams will be able to compete next year and maybe improve on the results.

We recently had a long weekend away at Easter in the Lake District, where we went walking and climbed some routes in Borrowdale.

Looking forward, we now have our expedition plans finalised and will be going to Switzerland for two weeks in August. With the latest technology we will be using a new means of transport - the flying Mercedes bus in conjunction with a local airline. We have achieved a superb deal to still keep the price very reasonable.

## THREE VALLEYS WATER

### SCOUT VISITS TO CLAY LANE

Three Valleys Water has built an Environmental Education centre set in 35 acres of woodland at the Clay Lane Treatment Works. It was officially opened by Dr David Ballamy in September 1998. It is expected that the centre will attract up to 10,000 visitors each year including school children and youth groups from the Three Valleys area and beyond undertaking a range of activities.

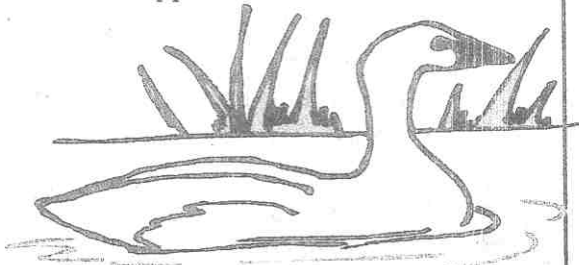
These include pond dipping, looking at bird life, invertebrate work, water box experiments and tours of the water treatment works, (for 7 years and older). The water experiments are National Curriculum based science experiments at key stages 1 and 2 and provide fun ways of learning about water.

We have already had a number of Scout Groups visiting the centre and the water treatment works for the "Water Wise" badge and have completed work on the Naturalist badge for the 15th Bushey and Oxhey Scout group, but we are keen to develop activities suitable for individual groups needs.

As a non-profit making centre we charge £2 per child with adults and helpers free. There is a minimum charge of £25 but we can cope with groups up to 64.

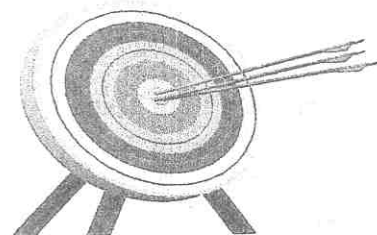
Enquires to:  
Three Valley Water  
Clay Lane Environmental Studies Centres  
Clay Land  
Bushey  
Hertfordshire  
WD2 3RE

Tele: 0181 420 5864  
Chris Dodkin - Education Support.



P.A.W. (Patrol Activity Weekend)

MAY 1999 - TOLMERS



### PAW '99 was great.

It contained everything from abseiling to assault course, badge work to ball games and trampoline to tie breakers. One of the highlights of the weekend was the BMX racing competition, which a member of 4th Letchworth - Mark Whittaker won. Three Counties were involved, Hertfordshire Northamptonshire and Greater London. Each morning involved flag break and each evening was flag down. One of the most memorable things was a gas cannister that blew up while we were at the opening ceremony.

Activities included climbing, abseiling, orienteering, assault course, BMX bikes, Quad bikes, Go Karts, Gladiators, badges, trampoline, rafting, canoeing, shooting, archery and more ! Pretty good for a weekend.

The weather was glorious too, which didn't do any harm. Overall it was a great weekend, not just for my troop, the scavenger hunt winners, but for everyone.

Thank you to the organisers, Leaders and the staff at Tolmers, as without them it wouldn't have been possible.

Adam Robson - 4th Letchworth



MORE...

## A View of Cub Activity at 1st Ashwell

### Visit to the Gurwara Singh Sikh Temple in Hitchin

We recently went to a Sikh Temple in Hitchin called a Gurudwara. The Gurdwara is a funny place, when you get inside you have to take your shoes off. When they pray their heads touch the floor and they don't want it to be dirty, that would be very unpleasant. We also had to cover our head with a scarf as a sign of respect.

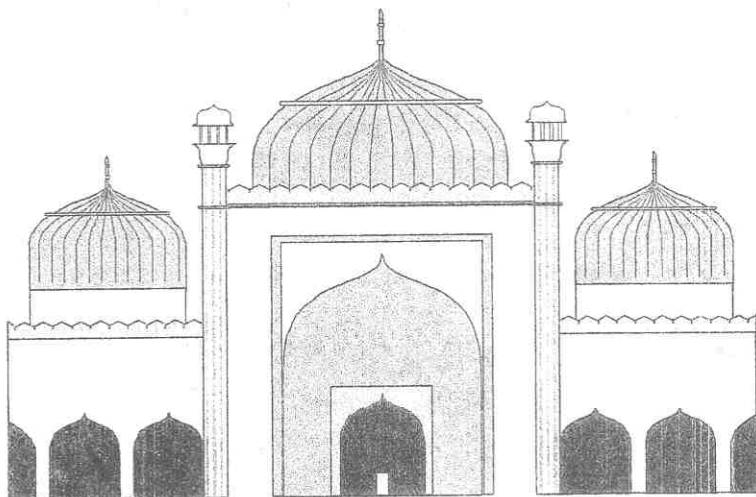
The first thing you see when you go in is the Palki. The Palki is the place where the special holy book called the Guru Granth Sahib is kept. The Palki is a bit like an altar with a canopy, there are five swords on the Palki, it looks like a palace, beautifully decorated with lights' around.

The person who reads the Guru Granth Sahib is a Granthi. The book takes forty eight hours to read. A fan called a chauri keeps away flies from the book. The man told us a story about the first Guru. He showed some of their musical instruments played in the temple. Like we have baptism they have an amrit ceremony. They have special water and special food.

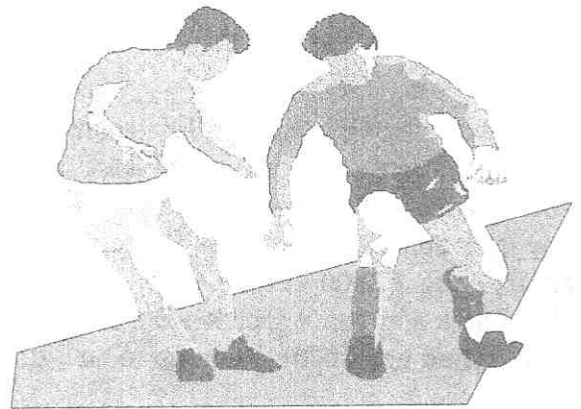
Inside the temple there is a kitchen called the Largar where they served us with cola and pastries. We liked the food they gave us. People go there to talk and meet each other

We had a brilliant visit

Compiled by 1st Ashwell Cubs



## District Scout Football Competition 15th May 1999 - Lannock School



The annual District Scout 5-a-side Football competition took place on Saturday 15th May at Lannock School. Although only five Troops took part there were some exciting matches played. The competition was split into three sections, Juniors, Seniors and all girl teams. Five Senior teams took part in a league, with each team playing four games. The winners of the Senior section were 4th Letchworth.

The Junior section only having two teams one from 4th Letchworth and the other a combined 1st Baldock and 2nd Baldock team played each other four times. Both teams having beaten each other once and drawing the other two matches, the winners were the Baldock team, with a better goal difference.

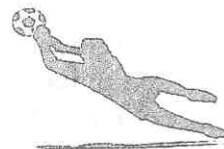
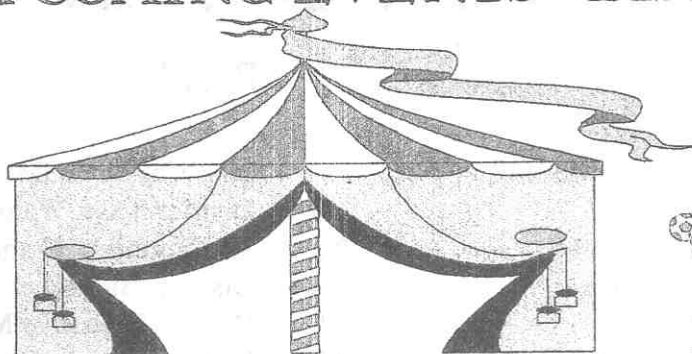
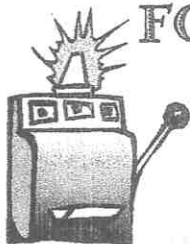
The girls from 2nd Baldock being the only girls team to enter played the Senior Section winners, 4th Letchworth, in a 'friendly' with the help of some very suspect refereeing decisions and a dubious penalty the girls beat the boys 1-0. Don't tell the FA.

I would like to thank all the teams for good sportsmanship, their Leaders for entering and supporting the event. Thanks also to Anthony who once again did a great job in controlling the games. Thanks to Mick & Deb Dilley for all their help in organising the event. I hope that next year more Troops will take part and make it an even better competition.

Dave Hawkins - Organiser

**MORE...**

# FORTH COMING EVENTS - DISTRICT



**Summer Fayre 26th June 1999**  
**Howard Park - Paddling Pool**  
**11.00am - 3.00pm**



## DISTRICT BARBECUE

**SIZZLIN'-HOT**  
**SUMMERTIME EXCITEMENT**

The annual District Barbecue will be held at Norton Bury on Wednesday 7th July from seven o'clock.

The price will be £4.00 per adult and £2.00 per child under twelve.

Under five's free.

Price includes all food and your first drink.

Please bring family and friends and make this a fun occasion.

*Tickets are available from your Group.*

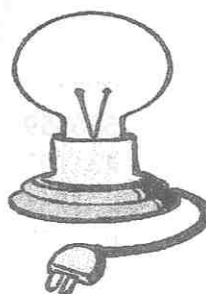


## DISTRICT CUB CAMP

**18th - 20th June 1999**

**Boyd Field - Henlow**

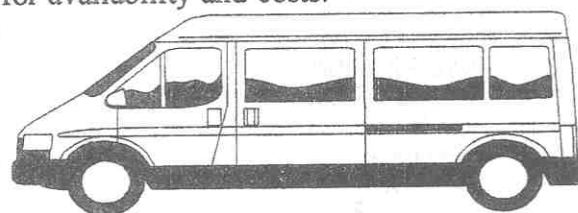
Be a Mad Scientist



Booked your Summer Camp ? Require transport ?  
 Want to take the Cubs / Scouts out for the day / evening ?

Book the District Minibus - seats 7 under sixteen's plus 4 over sixteen's and a driver.

Contact: Chris King on 01462 637901  
 for availability and costs.



**MORE...**

# DIARY DATES

## JUNE

- 2nd Appointment Committee Meeting
- 3rd District Scout Troop
- 9th K.J Talk - 5th Letchworth HQ
- 10th District Executive Meeting
- 12th 7 Centres Draw - Phasels
- 13th County Cub Canoeing Day
- 14th Summer Fayre Meeting
- 18th 4th Letchworth AGM
- 19th Fishing Competition - Scouts
- 18-20 District Cub Camp
- 19th District Beaver Day Out
- 24th Scout Leaders Meeting
- 26th District Summer Fayre
- 25-27 25/40 Mile Walk
- 28th 1st Baldock AGM

## JULY

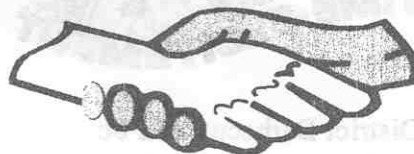
- 2nd 2nd Weston AGM
- 4th District Scout Water Activity Day
- 7th Appointments Committee
- 7th District Barbecue
- 8th District Executive Meeting
- 9th District Beavers Bangers & Bash
- 12th Cub Leaders Meeting
- 14th KJ - Talk 5th Letchworth HQ
- 17th County Cub Day Out - Wickstead Park
- 21st District Millennium Meeting
- 31st Deadline District Millennium Badge Comp.

### WARDENS - NORTON BURY

#### From

1 June	Peter Deary	686859
8 June	Peter Moules	435103
15 June	Carol Emsall	674543
22 June	Sheila May	673427
29 June	Dave Hawkins	643432
6 July	Elaine Wigglesworth	626218
13 July	Ken Hart	622164
20 July	John Hicks	676639
27 July	Nora Hitcham	627905

### WELCOME TO



Amanda Woolmer - 7th Letchworth ACSL

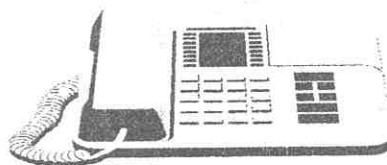
Paula Dilley - Beech Springs AVSL

### RING THE CHANGES

Chris King                      Tele No: 01462 637901  
ADC (Scout) / Minibus / SL 1st Baldock

Penny Lawrence              Tele No: 01462 637441  
Secretary 7th Letchworth

Graham Lawrence            Tele No: 01462 637441  
Helper 7th Letchworth



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The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council

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