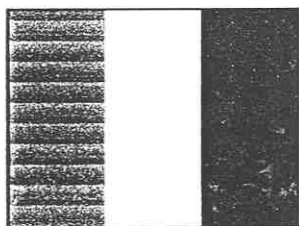




# Co-ordinator

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

## THE DISTRICT GOES INTERNATIONAL



ITALY

### Beech Springs (VSU)

Twenty Two Venture Scouts and Leaders went by road to Italy where they camped at Luino on the shores of Lake Maggiore. This magnificent setting of lake and mountain provided the ideal location for an adventurous expedition which included water activities such as canoeing, white water rafting, wind surfing and water skiing. The mountains provided fantastic

opportunities for climbing, hiking and mountain biking and two intrepid Venutres made a parachute jump.

The expedition closed with a meal in a mountain top restaurant which gave the Ventures time to reflect on their activities and the magnificent scenery around them

NB watch out for two Venture leaders on high technology hand made Italian mountain bikes.

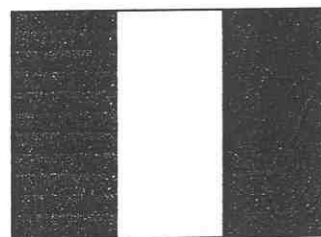
### 2nd Baldock Scouts

Eighteen Scouts and Leaders boarded a coach that took them to The Gorges Du Tarn for a 10 day activity holiday. From their base of Les Vignes, a picturesque village nestled in The Gorges Du Tarn, they undertook various

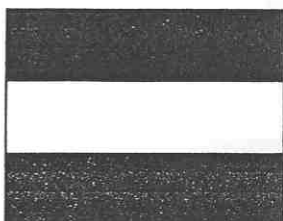
activities which included an all day 18km canoeing trip along the River Tarn, swimming, mountain biking and white water rafting. During their stay they had

a day visit to the Mediterranean where they visited a water park, a visit to the caves at Aven Armand and a visit to Milau to sample the delights of the local market. They shared the coach with a Scout group from Northern Ireland and a Venture Scout Unit from Wheat Hampstead who have maintained contact with 2nd Baldock and have got together a number of times.

The holiday was arranged by JEKA, a Belgium based company with over 40 years experience in organising activity holidays for youth groups. The cost includes all coach travel, accommodation, normally a house with all amenities, food and activities. They were well looked after, well fed and thoroughly enjoyed the holiday and activities.



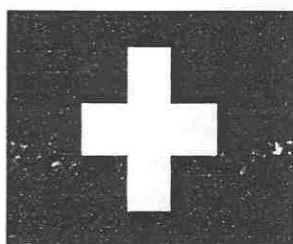
FRANCE



NETHERLANDS

## 11th Letchworth Scouts

Six Scouts and three Leaders set off to the Harleem Jamborette. Their journey started on Saturday 24th July 1999 at 1.00pm. They were taken to Liverpool Street where they met up with over 200 other Scouts from all over the U.K. They camped with Scouts from eighteen other Countries and enjoyed a well organised week of Scouting activities and international friendship.



SWITZERLAND

## Bacchus VSU

Venture Scout Leader, Chris Lunnon and twelve Ventures held a two centre expedition to Brig in Switzerland and Seefeld in Austria. They achieved a first in the District when they travelled by air. All their equipment was transported with them by Easy Jet to Geneva where they hired a minibus and then returned from Zurich.

Their expedition included canoeing, white water rafting, climbing, hiking and Kiendersteig and provided everyone with an exciting time

THE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE LEADERS WHOSE DEDICATION AND ENTHUSIASM MADE THESE EXPEDITIONS POSSIBLE.



## THE GANG SHOW 2000



Rehearsals for the Gang Show 2000 will take place on 2nd October at 1st 3rd Letchworth HQ, Icknield Way, Letchworth from 5.00pm - 7.00pm please encourage your boys/girls to come along.

The Gang Show is open to all members of the Scout and Guide Movement. The Gang Show wish to welcome new members in particular the younger members of Scouts and Guides.

Please contact Andrea Soulsby on 01462 643992 for more information.

## DISTRICT BBQ

1st 3rd Cubs marched smartly into the arena, the Millers arrived on their bikes and Mick Dilley brought his horse box. Yes, it was the annual District BBQ.

It is our opportunity to relax with Leaders, Scouts, families and friends and a large crowd enjoyed the beauty of Norton Bury on a fine summer evening. There were games, a bouncy castle for the children and the less energetic were able to sit back and enjoy a good meal and drink.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening.



## DISTRICT MINI BUS

The District Executive are looking extensively at the economics of running a District minibus. One proposal is to replace the current minibus with a 17 seater with roof rack and tow bar. We would like your comments as to whether this would encourage your Group to make more use of the minibus

All comments to The Editor.

## PARENTS NEWSLETTER

We intend to publish a termly newsletter for parents to keep them informed of our activities and hopefully to encourage them to become more involved in our activities.

The first edition will be with you shortly. (additional copies will be available from Rita Hawkins)

**PAGE 3**

## 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.

- |             |   |            |
|-------------|---|------------|
| 8 September | Volvic for the water<br>The discovery of Auvergne                             | 1965       |
| 13 October  | A Yank at the Wheel<br>International adventure with Roger B Keeney            | 1966       |
| 10 November | Guides' Tents and Lasham Twice<br>Stomes in mountains<br>Scouts in the clouds | 1967/68/70 |

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

## Team Meeting - ADC's



At the last ADC's Team Meeting it was minuted that all matters relating to the running of the sections i.e. Beavers, Cubs, Scouts would be dealt with by the appropriate ADC.

In the first instance please contact the ADC with sectional problems. All PC's complete with all relevant paperwork must be seen by the relevant ADC before being signed.

Deb Dilley ADC (Beavers)  
Dave Hawkins ADC (Cubs)  
Chris King (Scouts)  
Bob Williams (Ventures)

A gentle reminder that your ADC would be pleased to be kept informed about your programme and any outings.

Thank you for your co-operation.

**MORE...**

## Ken Hart's Farewell

Whilst the 8th Letchworth Cubs were enjoying their Lords and Ladies evening playing croquet and quoits at Norton Bury, the warden sat quietly watching and contemplating many generations of Scouts and the fun they have had at Norton Bury.

Ken Hart was the Warden and this was to be his last duty at Norton Bury. Ken is a modest person and not many of those present will have known his nickname amongst stalwarts of the movement - Mr Norton Bury.

It is due to Ken's vision and hard work that we can enjoy such wonderful facilities today. Ken was one of a group of Scouters and Guiders who saw the possibilities offered by Norton Bury and subsequently their dreams came true as they negotiated the lease with the Letchworth Garden City Corporation and then set about developing the manor house and grounds for use by Scouts and Guides.

Ken was awarded the Silver Acorn for his service to Scouting and he can retire in the knowledge that thousands of Scouts and Guides have had a wonderful time at Norton Bury.

Well done Ken.

### **STAR OF LETCHWORTH & BALDOCK GANG SHOW DANCES HIS WAY TO UK DISCO DANCING CHAMPIONSHIP**



My name is Adam Marsh, I belong to 5th Letchworth Cub Pack. My hobby outside Cubs is Disco Dancing which also includes Rock and Roll.

This year with my partner Naomi Garner we won the under twelve's boy/girl event and went on to represent our School of Dance at the United Kingdom Championship which were held in Corby on 18th July 1999.

### **DEPUTY COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

I am delighted to advise you that Anne Barnes has accepted my invitation to take up the vacant DCC's position, with effect from 1st September.

Anne's appointment will bring new ideas and a freshness of approach to our work with young people. Her responsibilities will focus on Programme, Training and Development specially.

Anne has served on the District Team in Hemel Hempstead and is currently VSL in West Herts. She was the successful leader of the Glenherts contingent to the recent Chile Jamboree.

Roger Sands  
County Commissioner

### **MILLENNIUM BADGE**

Don't forget that the Millennium Badge can be worn from September and supplies are available from the Badge Secretary.

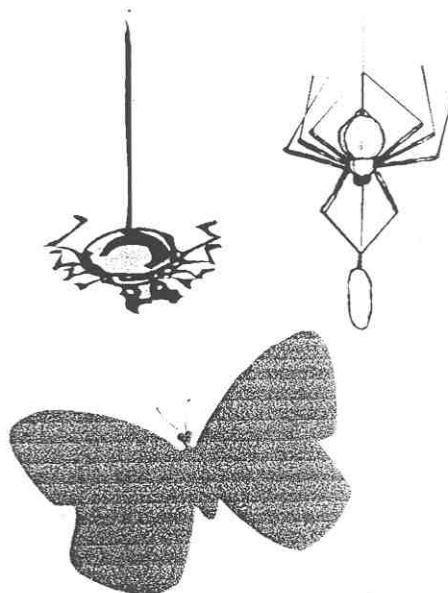
We had a great day - the sun shone for a change ! The Beavers took part in pond dipping and identifying creatures from tiny fish to water boatmen: bug hunting, catching spiders and ants etc.: cunning running, a mini orienteering course: finishing off by making a butterfly on a stick.

We all had a picnic lunch in the park and games in our own colonies.

The staff at the Park were brilliant and helped make the day a great success.

It's a shame that not all colonies joined us in the fun

Deb Dilley  
ADC (Beavers)



### DISTRICT BEAVERS BANGERS & BASH

There must be something wrong - this is the third event to be held in the sun !  
Where's the rain !

The Beavers enjoyed collecting pieces of wool and tying them together to make the longest complete length.

Hot dogs and squash went down well and the evening was completed with a sing song. Thanks to Julie and Fiona for organising the games. Mike and Maggie for the songs.

We said goodbye to Joanne Wilding ABSL 7th Letchworth who is moving out of the District.

I'm taking this opportunity to thank all Leaders for their hard and dedicated work. I hope you all had a restful summer holiday.

Deb Dilley ADC (Beavers)



### CONGRATULATIONS

At the County AGM Roger Sands, County Commissioner presented Bob Williams with his Long Service Award for 25 years in the Scouting Movement.

Bob received his Queen's Scout Award as a Rover Scout. For two years he was Assistant Scout Leader in Northampton. From 1975 he has held various appointments in Letchworth, both with 7th Letchworth and the District. For the past 12 years Bob has been District Commissioner and under his stewardship Letchworth & Baldock District has become a beacon in Hertfordshire Scouting.



# COUNTY CUB FUN DAY - 17TH JULY 1999

## WICKSTEAD PARK

The County organised a day out for the Hertfordshire Cubs at Wickstead Park. Six Packs from the District took advantage of the special price offered by Wickstead. Two full coaches plus nineteen, who had to travel on one of the Hitchin District coaches, 133 Cubs and Leaders in total, left Letchworth Outdoor Swimming Pool car park at 9.00am on Saturday morning. Arriving at Wickstead to bright sunshine at 10.15am we met up with the other Cubs from all over Hertfordshire, some nine hundred in total. Much to the amazement of "Joe Public" who had come for a quiet day out.

The Cubs were given their arm bands which allowed unlimited access to all the attractions. Off they went in small groups with instructions to return for lunch. The day was spent riding on rollacoasters, boating lakes, water chutes and any ride that would test their nerves.

Some of the Leaders headed to the cafe for a well deserved cup of tea or coffee and the aspirins. Peace did not reign for long as the Cubs always have a knack of finding you and telling you all about the rides they had been on and insisting that you must have a go (*note: remove tracking and compass work from next year's programme, Cubs are to good at it*). To round off the day the local Scout District arranged a camp fire in the centre of the Park.



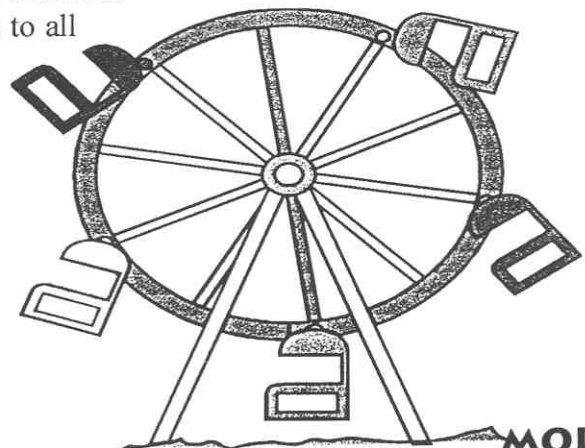
Imagine the sight as seen by the public, nine hundred Cubs and Leaders standing singing "Singing in the rain" with all the actions. No wonder they were scratching their heads at this wondrous sight. They were obviously enjoying the spectacle as a large number stayed to watch.

After the camp fire it was some very tired Cubs and Leaders who boarded the coaches home. We arrived back at Letchworth at 8.00 pm.

I am sure I speak for the majority when I say that we all had a great day out, with great weather and great company.

On behalf of the District I would like to thank Neil Fellowes and his team for organising the event. Thanks also to all the Leaders and Helpers and Parents who gave up their Saturday which allowed their Cubs to have a brilliant day out. Thank you also to Chambers Coaches and their drivers who we now consider part of the Scouting family.

Dave Hawkins  
ADC (Cubs)



**MORE...**

# Going for Growth

One of our objectives for the Millennium year is to implement the 'Going for Growth' policy of the Scout Association. We had a good increase in numbers last year and our exciting programme for the Millennium provides a good opportunity to attract more youngsters for the movement.

Why not try the health check below which appeared in the May issue of the Scouting magazine. This is best done by involving all adults in your Group so that everyone agrees with the answer. Agree on a score between 1 and 5 for each question - 1 for poor 3 for average, 5 for excellent

## GROUP SUPPORT

- \* How worthwhile are your Group Leaders' meetings?
- \* How would you rate your Group administration and Group Executive?
- \* How well are you supported by your District Team?
- \* How well are you supported by parents?
- \* How well do you think your Group supports your local community?
- \* How up-to-date is your Group Directory?
- \* Do you have a Group newsletter and how is it valued by all Members and parents?

## RETENTION

- \* How does your 1999 Group Census compare with 1998?
- \* How good do you really think links are between each Section?
- \* How many young people are still there 12 months after moving on a Section?
- \* What percentage of your Members are female?
- \* Do you have enough joint Section Meetings?
- \* Do you have enough events for the whole Group?

## RECRUITMENT

- \* How serious is your Group about recruiting more young people?
- \* How many names are there on your Beaver Scout Colony or Cub Scout Pack waiting lists?
- \* How would you rate the efforts being made to encourage non-Scouts to join the Group?
- \* How good are you at promoting Scouting to your local community?
- \* How do young people in your local schools view Scouting in your Group?
- \* How much does your local community value Scouting and your Scout Group?

## LEADERS AND HELPERS

- \* How well do all the Leaders in the Group work as a team?
- \* How well do all Leaders and Helpers feel supported?
- \* How many Leaders and Helpers have completed their training?
- \* How good is the Group at recruiting more Leaders and Helpers?
- \* Are the Leaders and Helpers in your Group friends or just acquaintances?

## PROGRAMME

- \* Do you feel enough young people took part in an outdoor activity (evening or day) every month in the last year?
- \* How many Cubs Scouts have had at least one weekend away in the last year?
- \* How many Scouts and Venture Scouts have had at least one week away in the last year?
- \* How many young people gained the highest Award in their Section in the last year?
- \* Is your Group programme really progressive?

## PRIORITIES

If you try and solve all the problems at once, you will achieve very little. So it's necessary to prioritise. Go back through your scores and pick out the questions that scored 1 or, below average and you agree need improving. Discuss each one and agree on your Groups top three priorities, in order of importance

## ACTION PLAN

Now make an action plan for your top three. Decide \* What action needs to be taken \* Who's going to do what - the more of the team that's involved, the better? \* When will it be done by?  
If suitable, set yourself targets to aim for. However, make all targets and deadlines achievable. If you think it will take 12 months to do something then set your self 12 months. By taking it one step-at-a-time, your Scout Group will get results and be motivated to move on to other areas.

Scouting Magazine May 1999.

Letchworth & Baldock Going For Growth

## Diary Dates 1999

### SEPTEMBER

- 8th K J Talk - 5th Letchworth H.Q.
- 8th Camp 2000 Meeting
- 9th District Executive
- 9th District Patrol Leaders Council
- 13th District Cub Leaders Meeting
- 17/18 District Scout Camping Competition
- 19th County Cub Fun Day
- 23rd District Scout Leaders Meeting
- 25th District Beavers Sports Day
- 28th District Team Meeting - ADC

### OCTOBER

- 1st/3rd County Patrol Camping Competition
- 4th District Millennium Meeting
- 6th Appointments Committee
- 13th K.J. Talk - 5th Letchworth H.Q.
- 14th District Executive Meeting
- 16th District Arts & Craft Competition
- 16th Fellowship AGM
- 15/17 District Scouts Night Jar Competition
- 21st Meet the District Team

### NOVEMBER

- 3rd Appointments Committee
- 10th K J Talk - 5th Letchworth H.Q.
- 11th District Executive
- 12/14 County Scouts Green Beret
- 14th Remembrance Sunday
- 19th District Cub Quiz
- 26th District Scout Quiz
- 28th District Training Day - Cottered

### DECEMBER

- 1st Appointments Committee
- 5th County Patrol Leaders Council
- 8th K J Talk - 5th Letchworth H.Q.
- 9th District Executive

*Distributed by:*

*The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council*  
*Editor: Mrs Rita Hawkins*

*1 South Close*  
*Baldock*  
*Hertfordshire*  
*SG7 6DS*

*Tele: 01462 643432*

*E-Mail: david.hawkins@net.ntl.com*

## 2000

- 22nd Jan District Scouts Cooking Competiton
- 4th/5th March Sixers & Seconders Weekend
- 4th March County Cub Swimming Gala
- 12th March County Scout Cooking Competition
- 24th/25th March District Gang Show
- 6th May County Football Competition
- 11th May District AGM
- 26th/29th Camp 2000 - Norton Bury
- 30th Sep/1st Oct Scout Camping Competition
- 12th/14th Nov Green Beret (Scouts)

### CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

**Sonja Hall (BSL) 1st Baldock 01462 637931**

### WARDENS - NORTON BURY

#### From:

<b>7 September</b>	<b>Ann Chapman</b>	<b>686772</b>
<b>14 September</b>	<b>Pauline Gimson</b>	<b>677993</b>
<b>21 September</b>	<b>Ann Martin</b>	<b>627439</b>
<b>28 September</b>	<b>Shelley Wilsher</b>	<b>642026</b>

<b>5 October</b>	<b>Kay Skingsley</b>	<b>685768</b>
<b>12 October</b>	<b>Mick Balls</b>	<b>893855</b>
<b>19 October</b>	<b>Cyril &amp; Gwen Keech</b>	<b>894512</b>
<b>26 October</b>	<b>Ruth &amp; Peter Baker</b>	<b>682752</b>



### WELCOME TO



Carol Parker - 5th Letchworth - Helper, Cubs

Sue King - Beech Springs - AVSL  
 Tele: 01462 637901

Fiona Potts - 1st Baldock (Knights) CSL  
 Tele: 01763 288238

Jackie Hare - 7th Letchworth ABSL  
 Tele: 01462 681595

Simon Wilson - 5th Letchworth ACSL  
 Tele: 01462 627543