



January 2000 No: 456

Co-ordinator

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

2000



The Millennium Resolution

Let there be
respect for the earth
peace for its people
love in our lives
delight in the good
forgiveness for past wrongs
and from now on a new start

Dear Lord

Can you help us to be good and look after the world and
all the animals in it. Help us to like each other. And
make the world a better place for us to live in.

Amen

Matthew (12th Letchworth)

Thank you for my time at Cubs
My family who help me and care for me
Thank you to my teachers
They help me at school
They help me to obey the rules
Thank you God for always being
there for me

Amen

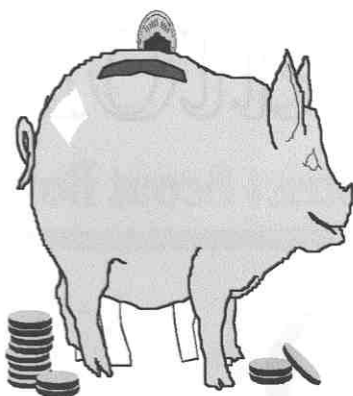
Gregory Barker
1st Baldock (Knights)

MORE...

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

This year the membership subscription will be £17.50 per head.

It is made up as follows



National	£12.50
County	£ 3.00
Training Levy	£ 1.00
District Levy	£ 1.00
Total	£17.50

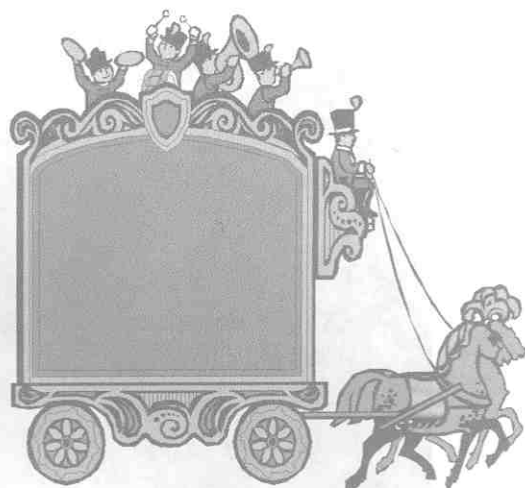
1st Baldock (Knights)

Baldock museum had its first ever visit by a group of young people when 1st Baldock (Knights) Cubs went along on a pack night 23rd November 1999. The Museum currently has a display on 800 years of the Baldock Fair. Eight hundred years, that is a long time. I went to the Fair this year. King John ("bad" King John of Robin Hood fame) gave the charter - so he was real, not just in the stories. There is also a display on the history of Baldock and one on its schools.

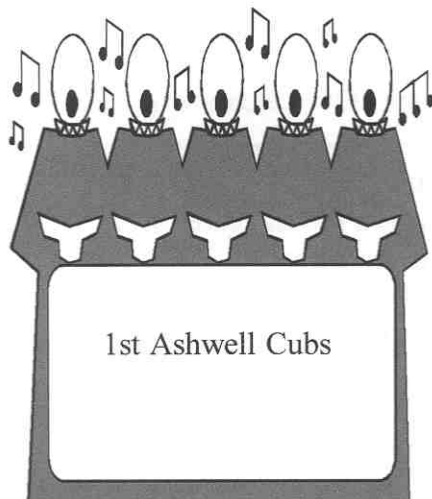
The first rule of conduct for pupils at Baldock National Schools in 1834 was "They must behave respectfully to their teachers, and strictly and readily obey the directions given them". What did the Cubs think of that ?

We had a very enjoyable visit and the museum would be happy to open on request to other interested groups.

Fiona Potts CSL 1st Baldock (Knights)



Ashwell Community Carol Service



Ashwell Cubs took part in the local community carol service when they entertained a large congregation to "Wonderwall" which was followed by a solo by Cub Leader Nick Jewell. This was very much appreciated by the congregation and the Cubs are to be congratulated on the quality of their performance.

During the service the District Commissioner presented Ellie with the Pack 'Cub of the Year' award and he presented the Adventure Crest and the Adventure Award to Jonathan and Nicholas Clarke who are now leaving the District to live in Southampton .

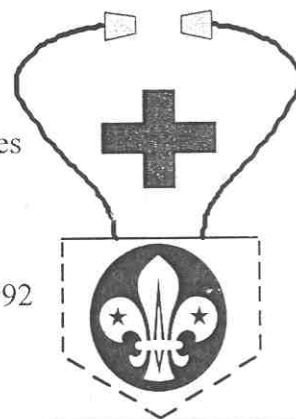
COUNTY TRAINING DAYS

First Response First Aid - Well End

Saturday 11th March 2000
Sunday 19th November 2000



The County will be holding First Response courses at Well End. It is important that all new Leaders have a First Response certificate. Please contact John Chapman ADC (Adult Training) on 01462 686772 or Andrea Soulsby on 01462 643992 for a booking form.



Hertfordshire Adult Training 2000

Phase 3	Sunday 30th January	+	27th February
All sections	Saturday 26th February	+	25th March
	Monday 18th September	+	3 evenings TBA
	Saturday 21st October	+	25th November
Phase 4	Saturday 30 September	+	Sunday 22nd October
Beaver Section	Saturday 11 November	+	Sunday 26th November
Phase 4	17th/18th/19th March	+	16th/17th/18th June
Cub Section			
Phase 4	24th/25th June + 9th September + 10th September + 14th/5th		
Scout Section	October		
Phase 4	1st/2nd July + 6th/7th/8th October + 12th November		
Venture Section			
Phase 5	Tuesday 8th February	+	11th/12th March
All Sections	Monday 13th March	+	29th/30th April
	Wednesday 11th October	+	18th/19th November

Please contact John Chapman, ADC (Adult Training) Tel: 01462 686772
or
Andrea Soulsby Tel: 01462 643992 for more details and a booking form.

DISTRICT TRAINING "SWOPSHOP"

Over twenty leaders attended the training "Swopshop" and took part in some lively discussions about the way we conduct our Scouting.

The morning started with a session on 'Ceremonies' led by Nick Farmer. It illustrated the culture of our Scouting and the ceremonies we use to emphasize our values. There were many interesting variations between troops and many ideas were exchanged. All agreed that ceremonies are an important part of moving from one section to another and that they are most effective when leaders work as a team and the youngsters are carefully prepared for the move through a programme of integrated activities.

We also discussed the requirement of a new leader and how we could best give them support. The value of Personal Training Adviser was emphasized together with working alongside an experienced leader.

In the afternoon we discussed the programme review "Visions for the Future" and the problem of retaining older Scouts. A lot of the discussion centred on the uniform which we now understand is being looked at by a separate focus group.

Whilst all this was going on Phil May conducted a 'First Response' course for eight leaders and John Chapman was able to take two new leaders through the Phase I & Phase II training.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the day and to Anne and Gwen for an appetizing midday meal.

Adolescent/Co-education Workshops for District Commissioners and Group Scout Leaders

Many District Commissioners and Group Scout Leaders have suggested that they would value some help to think through the development of Adolescent and Co-educational Scouting - both are areas that many find difficult to plan for and work with.

To meet that need a series of workshops for District Commissioners and Group Scout Leaders has been set up. The workshops will provide an opportunity for DCs and GLSs to look at issues and concerns relating to teenagers in Scouting and the issues relating to co-educational Scouting (all ages).

The nearest venue is London (Gilwell Park) on Sunday 12th March 2000.

The cost of the workshop will be £5.00 per person which will cover the cost of refreshments and the use of the premises. There will be no lunch provided therefore, it is recommended that those attending provide their own packed lunch.

Booking forms are available from Bob Williams (DC) and should be returned no later than Friday 21st January 2000.

A CENTURY OF SCOUTING: Part 1

Becoming aware that in seven years' time the Scout movement will be 100 years old Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Fellowship has formed a subcommittee to gather as much stuff as it can, with the idea of publishing the history of this District in time for the centenary.

Several people with long memories have already given or lent photographs, note books, minute books and so on, but there is always room for more. Meantime, Rita has suggested that we might take a gallop through the twentieth century, just before it finishes, and look at some of the odd bits of information that might be included in the Official History of Letchworth & Baldock District.

Actually, the District only began in May 1944 when the District Boy Scouts Association was formed. Before that, Letchworth had been part of Hitchin District and Baldock came under the wing of Royston's D.C.

We all know (don't we?) that Mafeking was relieved on 17 May 1900, and Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell (B.-P. to most people) became a popular hero in this country. His army manual "Aids to Scouting" was read by all sorts of folk who had no intention of personally going out to the Karroo, or the Veldt, or wherever, and tracking down potential enemies of the Queen. But it looked like a good game, and when William Smith, the founder of the Boys' Brigade, suggested that Scouting would be an interesting activity for some of his lads, B.-P. was persuaded to hold an experimental camp for a selected cross-section of boys, in August 1907 on an island in Poole Harbour called Brownsea. In the months that followed, he began work on a boys' version of his book.

It was called "Scouting for Boys. A Handbook for Instruction in Good Citizenship" and was first published in fortnightly parts costing four pence each, starting on 22 January 1908. Then, on 18 April came the first number of a weekly paper, "The Scout", costing one penny.

In this B.-P. wrote: "I am glad to see that, although the Boy Scouts have only been set going within the last two months, they are rapidly increasing all over the country, and we have even had letters from Burma, Gibraltar and Canada, asking for particulars, with a view to starting colonial branches".

There were no Districts, and no national Headquarters. Scouting was simply an activity for the Boys' Brigade or any other boys' club, or any gang of lads who read the book and decided to form a patrol. There was no exact uniform, but a wide brimmed hat, a shirt and short trousers or breeches were the general idea. And very odd they looked in those respectable Edwardian times, and they got laughed at; but still more and more Boy Scouts appeared all over the place, and good citizens saw that it was worth encouraging these lads in training for Good Citizenship.

In a very new town called Letchworth Garden City, where quite a lot of people dressed in unusual ways and were laughed at, Mr Norman D Saunders, of Elmhurst in Baldock Road, was persuaded to become the first Scoutmaster to the three local Patrols working together as a Troop. We have a set of photographs presented at Christmas 1909 "To Mr & Mrs Browning & Family as an appreciation of their many kindnesses to the Letchworth Troop of Boy Scouts during their camp at Half Hyde Farm".

Half Hyde Farm was near Shephall, where today the Sainsbury Superstore stands on the corner of Magpie Crescent, Stevenage. The photographs show the Letchworth Boy Scouts enjoying their camp dinner outside a bell tent in a farm field, and one caption reads: "My! How we did live!"

Almost every village in the District had its own spontaneous Patrol of Boy Scouts, though few of them lasted long enough to become established Troops. The twelfth-century new town of Baldock made a good start and has kept going. Eric Woodward (though contrary to rumour, not actually there himself) has found a news item in the "Hertfordshire Express" of September 1909, reporting that "Whitwell B.P. Boy Scouts were joined by a small contingent of Baldock B.P. Scouts for a Weekend Camp", and there must have been many more such events not recorded. Each week, "The Scout" had the latest news of new Troops, such as the one being raised at Welwyn by Arthur Davies in December 1908, where the Cuckoo and Peewit Patrols used the old drill hall as a club room. The first list of Local and District Committees was in April 1909, including C.C.M. Kennedy as the Stevenage secretary.

On 11 December 1909, "The Scout" reported "The Letchworth Troop spent a most interesting evening at Howard Hall recently. All the patrols turned up, together with some recently joined tenderfeet. The chairman of the local committee, Mr N Macfadyen, gave a very interesting lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, of the local troop in camp. The Scouts then appeared on the platform, and for an hour or so showed the audience the value of the training they had received. At the close ^{the} ten Scouts, led by Mr L.R. Wheeler, their Scoutmaster, saluted the Union Jack, and 'God save the King' was sung. The hall was quite full, and the evening, although little time could be given to rehearsal, passed off most successfully, while the troop funds will receive a much-needed leg-up. Great credit is due to Assistant Scoutmaster Saunders for preparing and showing the slides of Scout life. Cheers were given at the close for the Scouts."

It was in fact Doctor Norman Macfadyen who presided at that meeting, and later organized an adult committee for the Letchworth Scouts. Its chairman was Edmund Hunter, the owner of the silk weaving works at the corner of Ridge Road and Pixmore Avenue (and the building is still there).

By 1911, Norman Saunders had taken over as Scoutmaster, and one of the Patrol Leaders, Bill Rayment, became Assistant Scoutmaster. It was a busy summer, for the Scouts were chosen to carry the flags of the Colonies in Letchworth's procession to celebrate the coronation of King George V; next week they marched to Ickleford for a rehearsal for the Royal Review and three days later joined a special train at 2.20 am taking them to Windsor to parade before the King. Two more uniform parades in the same week followed, with a march to Hitchin for a hospital demonstration. Then came a field day and overnight camp with the Ashwell Troop, a week's camp with Knebworth Scouts in Knebworth Park in August, and a week's camp at the Cloisters in September. And at the end of the month, the Peewit patrol from the Norton Road School troop, and some of the Town troop, cycled to Watford for a County rally and camp.

It began to look as though Scouting in this District was here for good.

(to be continued)

K.J.

THE GANG SHOW GETS READY

Preparations for the Letchworth & Baldock District Gang Show 2000 (24th and 25th March 2000) are already underway, but, as the show is very much a District event, we continue to seek the support of new members from all units and all age-groups.

Any of your members who would like to join the show, either in the cast or to help out behind the scenes are welcome to attend rehearsals on Saturdays between 4.00pm and 7.00pm at the 1st 3rd Scout Headquarters, Icknield Way. Saturday 22nd January will be the latest date for joining the current show.

The production of the annual Gang Show depends upon commitment, teamwork and hard work which are recognised elements in personal development. Do, please, encourage your youngsters to join what is a very enjoyable experience.

We look forward to seeing you there !

Andrea Soulsby-
Producer

Note: Booking forms for the show are currently available from:

**John Wright, 41 Bowershott, Letchworth
SG6 2ET Tel: 01462 673779**

NORTON BURY - BOOKING SECRETARY

Ruth Baker has relinquished her job as booking secretary for the Norton Bury Activity Centre as from 31st December 1999. Until a permanent booking secretary is appointed, Barbara Crombie will be taking the job on.

Any one wishing to make an enquiry regarding the booking of the house and use of the camp site should get in touch with her.

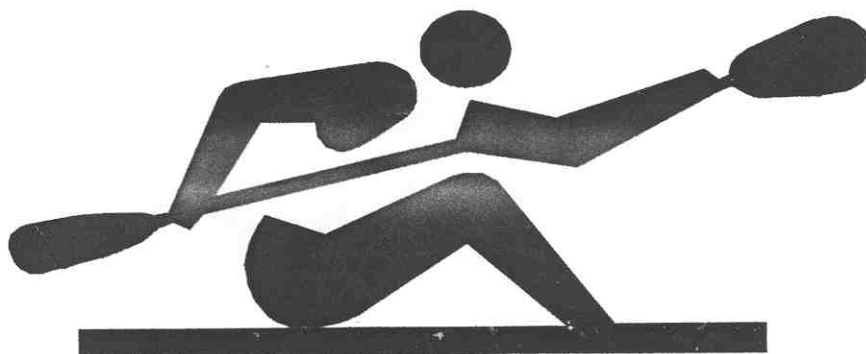
E-mail: bcrombie16@aol.com

Tel: 01462 671062

Address: 16 Hawthorn Hill, Letchworth, Hertfordshire SG6 4HG

Hertfordshire Scouts Calendar - Additions

Event	Venue	Date	Contact
Canoeing	Fairlands Lake	20th February 2000	John Wright 01923 468205
	1,2 and 3 Star training	Open to all Scouts, Leaders etc.	10:00am - 1:00pm
Canoeing	Fairlands Lake	19th March 2000	John Wright 01923 468205
	1,2 and 3 Star training.	Open to all Scouts, Leaders etc.	10:00 am - 1:00pm
Canoeing	TBA	26th March 2000	John Wright 01923 468205
	River trip suitable for those people working towards 2 star.	All day	
Canoeing	Rickmansworth	8th April 2000	Tess Hawkins 01923 448559
	County Slalom and Training.	Open to all. All day.	
Canoeing	Rickmansworth	9th April 2000	Tess Hawkins 01923 468559
	County Slalom and Training.	Open to all. All day.	



NOTICE BOARD

K.I. Diaries

Unfortunately the remaining three readings scheduled for January, February and March 2000 have been cancelled.

CENSUS

By now the Group Secretary will have received the census forms. These need to be completed by the Group, in conjunction with the enclosed notes.

Ron Smith would appreciate their prompt return, but no later than 21st January 2000.

Thanking you in advance for your co-operation.

SUMMER FAYRE MEETING



Once again the District Summer Fayre will be held.

The first planning meeting will be held at Norton Bury on Monday 7th February 2000 at 8.00pm.

We look forward to all Groups being represented at this meeting.

See you there

Rita

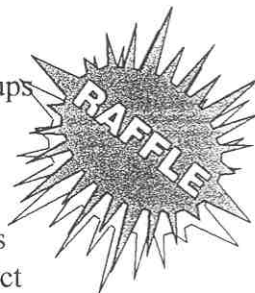
Green Beret - The wrong date appeared in the December's issue of Co-ordinator. The editor is sorry for any confusion that this has caused.

The correct date will be issued when clarification has been sought.

CAMP 2000 - RAFFLE

Raffle tickets will be distributed to the Groups shortly.

As you are aware the purpose of the raffle is to help fund the District Camp 2000 in May 2000.



Please support the District by selling as many tickets as possible.

P.S. DO NOT FORGET YOUR GROUP KEEPS 50% OF ALL SALES.



The Scout Fellowship

Please come and join us for our wine tasting on the 15th January at 7.30 pm. The venue is the Guide Headquarters, Icknield Way, Letchworth.

Cost £3 per person, bring along your family and friends.

Contact Margaret Durrant on 01462 624731.



MORE...

Diary Dates 2000

JANUARY 2000

5th	Appointment Committee
10th	Cub Leaders Meeting
11th	Millennium Meeting - Norton Bury
15th	Fellowship - Wine Tasting
17th	Camp 2000 Meeting - Norton Bury
21st	Census Figure - Deadline
22nd	District Scout Cooking Competition 1st Baldock H.Q.
25th	ADC's Meeting - 2nd Baldock H.Q..
29th	County Great Patrol Hunt - Quiz

FEBRUARY 2000

7th	District Beaver Leaders Meeting
7th	Summer Fayre Meeting
10th	District Executive Meeting
19th/20th	Operation Ferret
21st/25th	Half Term

MARCH 2000

1st	Appointments Committee
3rd/5th	Peak Assault
4th	County Swimming Gala - Cubs
4th/5th	Sixer & Seconders Weekend
10th	Subscriptions to Michael Thomason DEADLINE
12th	County Scout Cooking Competition
13th	Cub Leaders Meeting
24th/25th	District Gang Show
28th	ADC's Team Meeting

APRIL 2000

5th	Appointment Committee
13th	District Executive
15th	District Beaver Challenge

MAY 2000

3rd	Appointments Committee
6th	County Cub Football Comp.
8th	Cub Leaders Meeting
11th	District A.G.M.
11th	Draw - Raffle at A.G.M.
13th	Jamboree on the Trail JOTT
16th	Hitchin District A.G.M.
20th/21st	District Triathlon
26th/29th	Together 2000 Camp

JUNE 2000

7th	Appointments Committee
8th	Meet the District Team

JULY 2000

3rd	County A.G.M.
5th	District BBQ
5th	Appointments Committee
10th	Cub Leaders Meeting
13th	District Executive
14th	District Beavers Bangers & Bash
15th	District Summer Fayre

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