



April 2000 No: 459

# Co-ordinator

## The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

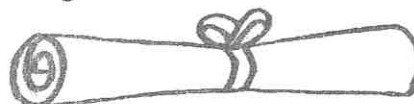
### A Month in the life of the District

#### HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE GET THE MOST OUT OF LIFE



3rd - 5th March - PEAK ASSAULT  
Ventures 16 - 20 years  
Orienteering Competition  
Okehampton

Congratulations to Gareth Howell, Scout Leader at  
11th Letchworth who has just completed his  
Leader training and been awarded the Wood Badge



4th Letchworth Scouts represents the  
District at the County Cooking Competition  
Sunday 12th March - Broxbourne



Sixers & Seconders Weekend  
4th - 5th March  
Over 50 Cubs camp at  
Norton Bury Activity Centre



Leaders attended the  
County Guide AGM  
Saturday 18th March  
at Hertford



24th - 25th March  
Gang Show - Plinston Hall  
All sections participating  
with over 60 in the cast



County Swimming Competition  
4th March - St Albans  
12 Cubs represented the  
District

Plus 135 regular Group meetings bringing

Scouting in Letchworth, Baldock, Weston and  
Ashwell to over 600 young people.

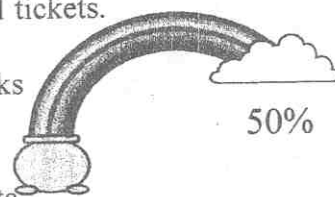


## CAMP 2000 RAFFLE TICKETS

The raffle seems to be going well and already a number of Groups and individuals have requested additional tickets.

We know of someone who has sold over 30 books of tickets - can you better this ?

If you require any extra tickets please contact Rita Hawkins. If you have not received any tickets to sell contact your Group GSL or Chairperson.



To help administration could Groups please start to return the ticket stubs and monies together with the appropriate statement sheet. Don't forget that 50% of the proceeds are kept with the Group.

### ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE

**SUNDAY 7 MAY - THE HIGHFIELD SCHOOL, HIGHFIELD, LETCHWORTH**

**Please assemble at Kennedy Gardens at 2.15pm.**

**The rehearsal is on Saturday 6 May at 10.00 am.**

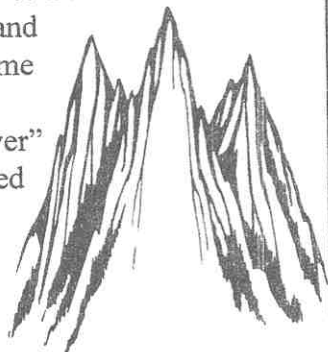
**Neckercheives only for rehearsal**

### PEAK ASSAULT

This year's event took place amidst the magnificent scenery of Dartmoor. The base camp was high above Okehampton with magnificent views of the surrounding scenery. The weather was fine with clear blue skies but it was very cold for the teams who camped overnight on the moor.

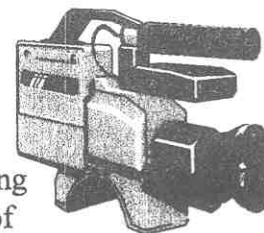
It was exciting to see them all returning over the brow of the hills on Sunday morning and the camp coming to life as the hikers returned. At the final presentation there were over 700 hikers and support crew.

Our congratulations go to Bacchus who gained 7th place and Beech Springs who came 29th. Bacchus mixed team won "Jane's Salver" for being the first mixed team - well done to everyone.



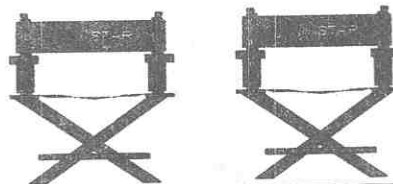
### BBC ONE: TV Opportunity for Scouts

The Scout Association are currently putting together a pilot programme for BBC One with Ainsley Harriot and we need your help ! We are looking for children between the ages of 8 - 14 years, who want to surprise their mum, dad, teacher or Scout Leader and make their dreams come true. Perhaps your mum has always wanted to sing with Steps, or your dad is mad about gardening and wants to garden with Alan Titchmarsh or maybe your teacher has always wanted to fly a plane. Whatever it is Ainsley will help you surprise them.



We need to hear from you NOW if you have a great idea of how to surprise them. Tell us how and we will choose the best ideas for our pilot programme.

Send your ideas to [Sarah.Davis@bbc.co.uk](mailto:Sarah.Davis@bbc.co.uk) or phone 0121 432 8268 or fax 0121 432 8375 or post your ideas to Sarah Davis at Room 530, BBC Birmingham B5 7QQ



### TRIATHALON - Saturday 20th May

Don't forget to make preparations for the Triathlon when teams (six per team) of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts will compete in swimming, running and cycling events.

It will take place at Letchworth Swimming Pool, Norton Common and Norton Bury.

Rule and entry forms will soon be available for entries to be submitted after Easter.

**MORE...**

## Sixers and Seconders Week-end 4th - 5th March - Norton Bury

The District held it's annual Sixers & Seconders weekend at the Norton Bury Activity Centre. Over 50 Cubs attended the weekend with most sleeping over on the Saturday night. During the weekend the Cubs visited six bases

Fire lighting	Ceremonies
Knotting	Orienteering
Fridge Cooking	Nature

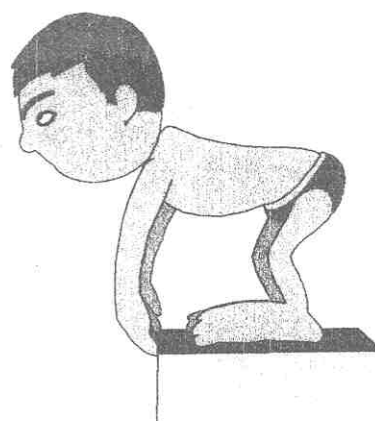
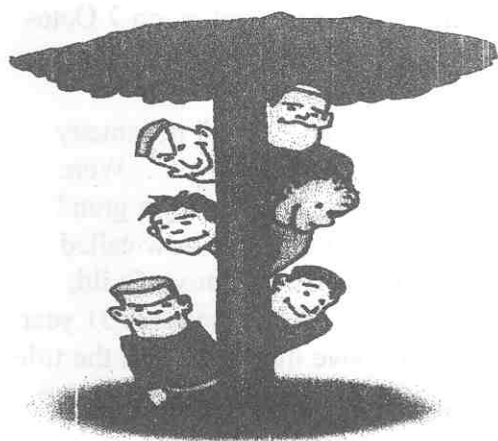
On the Saturday we held a camp fire around the dining room fireplace, after which the Cubs were taken on a short night hike around the footpaths of Norton and Baldock. The Cubs managed to find every mud hole, puddle on the route. This year we only lost one pair of shoes which had to be rescued from deep mud. On the hike we were joined by a eight Scouts from the 5th Letchworth Scout Troop who also enjoyed the mud.

On Sunday we had a short Cubs Own at which each Pack presented a short prayer that they had written.

Thanks to Wendy and Simon Tierney, Tony Foxton (2nd Weston) for keeping us very well fed during the weekend.

A big thank you to all the Leaders and helpers who gave up their weekend to make it possible. Last of all thank you to all the Cubs who were a credit to their Packs and the District and made it enjoyable for everyone.

Dave Hawkins ADC (Cubs)



## Cub County Swimming Gala 4th March - St Albans

The team selected from the swimming trials went to the County Swimming Gala on Saturday 4th March where they competed against thirteen other Districts. The team had to swim in various styles and age groups, plus a relay. After some very competitive racing the team gained 8th place.

### WELL DONE TO

James Overton	4th Letchworth
Rogan Radford	4th Letchworth
Matthew Durie	4th Letchworth
Adam Booth	5th Letchworth
James Breeze	7th Letchworth
Matthew Anderson	2nd Weston
Harvey Hayman	2nd Weston
Tom Noble	2nd Weston
Iain Brook	2nd Weston
Jake Mongston	1st Baldock

and many thanks to Wendy Tierney and Anne Gutteridge for taking and looking after the team

### LOST AND FOUND

I have a cardboard box containing a pair of wellingtons and a number of coats. These were left at Norton Bury after the Sixers and Seconders weekend in March. Please telephone 01462 643432 Dave Hawkins to give a coat a home.

## A CENTURY OF SCOUTING: PART 4

With the Great War over at last, Baden - Powell's ideal of "Peace Scouting" took new directions. A great rally of all nations took place in the Olympia exhibition hall in London and was named the "Jamboree" by B.-P.. It was here that he was proclaimed as Chief Scout of the World.

And now the separate parts of local Scouting began to take a shape that we might recognize. Throughout the 1920's, Baldock remained as part of Royston District, with Captain J.V. Jacklin as their first District Commissioner, along with patrols and small troops that seemed to meet from time to time in Bygrave, Clothall, Radwell, Stotfold and Weston. Letchworth (and Stevenage) formed part of the Hitchin District, but Letchworth and Baldock quite naturally shared a united open-air service in Howard Park in August 1923.

In that same year, and possibly earlier, a new but short-lived Wolf Cub pack was formed at St Joseph's College in Baldock, with the Reverend Mother as Cubmaster. The pack's registration number was 4716, but more information would be very welcome - especially any photographs of the Reverend Akela in action !

Summer camp for First Letchworth Boy Scouts in 1922 was for the first week of August at Sacombe Park near Hertford. In June 1923, ASM Hugh Gentle cycled to Watford with three of the Scouts to attend Hertfordshire's annual County Rally. Next month, Mr and Mrs F.J. Cole came to the regular meeting at the Boys' Club to present a troop flag, which was ceremonially received by Patrol Leader P. Heele, the first lad who had qualified for the All-Round Cords, then the highest proficiency award for a Boy Scout.

The flag was no doubt proudly carried at the Hitchin District Rally held at Whitney Wood in Stevenage on Saturday 9 July, when Hugh Gentle and Scoutmaster Ralph West gave displays of boxing and singlestick fencing. Fitness and exercise were also major features of the camp at Walton on the Naze at the end of the month.

In January 1924, First Letchworth troop was officially registered at Imperial Headquarters as number 5428, with Hugh Smith coming in as Assistant Scoutmaster. Another job was now lined up for Hugh Gentle, as Cubmaster of the Wolf Cub pack which began meeting on Tuesdays behind the Phoenix Motor Works canteen in Pixmore Avenue. By Christmas, there were 32 Cubs in the pack, aged from 10 to 12 years.

Letchworth's Scouts were among the 60,000 forming a "posse of welcome" at the rally for the Prince of Wales (later to be King Edward VIII) at Alexandra Palace in north London, on 7 October 1922.

Despite all this news and more in the local papers, someone wrote to "The Citizen" in January 1923, complaining that the Boy Scouts seemed "to rather effectually hide themselves". Were they shy of showing their knees in public? This was disproved a week or two later by a grand Scout concert given in the Co-op Hall (above the large shop in Eastcheap which is now called What Everyone Wants!) A new hut, no longer required by the Women's Co-operative Guild, became Letchworth Scout Headquarters in May that year; and it's a nice coincidence that 31 years later, another grand Scout concert was held in that same Co-op Hall above the shop, with the title "Our Show", which after two years became the Gang Show, for Letchworth and Baldock united.

Back in the early twenties, however, First Baldock troop, now registered at IHQ as number 1527, had its "club room" (listed in the Baldock Almanack for 1920) in the former Salvation Army barracks, until moving to a larger ex-Army hut at the corner of Pest House Lane (later Clothall Road) in May 1923. Soon after this, twelve of the Baldock Scouts who had reached the great age of 16 formed a Rover Patrol, following the ideals of B.-P.'s new book published in 1922, "Rovering to Success".

Though the book had a high Victorian moral tone with chapters on the dangers of Horses, Wine, Women, Cuckoos and Irreligion, Rover Scouting was "the Brotherhood of the Open Air" where Scout training for citizenship could be continued with a wider outlook suitable for young men wishing to carry into adult life the activities and comradeship they had enjoyed as Boy Scouts.

B.-P.'s first plan was for Rover Troops with Patrol Leaders and Scoutmasters, but soon the "troop" was replaced by a "Crew" under a Rover Scout Leader and assistant Rover Mates. For the first twenty years, Rover patrols were about all that existed locally. First Letchworth had such a patrol from 1924, helping to run the younger troop's camp at Old Warden at Easter 1925, and in 1926 putting on another Co-op Hall concert along with some of the Hitchin Rovers. By 1939, *Letchworth* First Baldock and Fourth Baldock (St Paul's) both included a few Rover Scouts, and the Rover Den behind the Manor House was the meeting place for the Eagles and Peewits of Baldock during the second world war. "It is not possible to run Rovers efficiently without a Den", as B.-P. wrote in his book. One year after the war, the first District Rover Crew was formed in 1946 for Letchworth and Baldock.

However, we are getting ahead of the mainstream story. Back in 1925, First Baldock Boy Scouts' activities were getting a little stale, for there was a call for the troop to be revived "with more enterprising methods". declared a new Scoutmaster, J.A. Clarke, supported by ASM Phil Lee. Mr Newling was added to the team as gym instructor, and by next year there were "signs of activity again". A long meeting was held on St Patrick's Day 1926 "to consider developments". Mr W. Pluver took over as Scoutmaster (though this name could possibly be a misreading, as a Mrs Guiver is recorded as a new leader for the Wolf Cubs). Mrs Guiver swept in with the organizing of a whist drive on 26 April which raised £3/10/4 for the pack funds, already boosted by a successful Scout dance at the Town Hall.

Wolf Cubs and Boy Scouts were, however, quite separate organizations. Only in 1928 did Imperial Headquarters decide that packs and troops should be united in Scout Groups. This meant a nationwide re-registration which took months to do, and next year First Baldock group received the number 18. In later years this low number gave the impression that it was one of the oldest groups in the country, but in fact it is probably due to the new numbers being allocated in alphabetical order.

Meanwhile, that new Garden City down the road was still growing. First Letchworth SM Ralph West took the troop to summer camp at Conwy in 1925, and was planning the next year's trip to Devon, when a new Second Letchworth troop was starting up. Ralph had 35 Scouts, meeting regularly once again in the Boys' Club building in Broadway, and they were happy to share some activities with the Second. Yes, there was another joint concert in the good old Co-op Hall in May 1928, raising funds for the two troops' joint camp at Torquay in August.



Then, being one of these new Scout Groups in 1928, the Second formed its own Wolf Cub pack at Pixmore School. Things were booming again, and by the end of the decade the Third and Fourth Letchworth Groups were up and running.

This Third Letchworth (registration number 9544) also met at Pixmore School, and continued up to and through World War 2. Successive Scoutmasters are mentioned in directories as C. Thompson, J. Armitage, M.F. Tabor and Ernest Noble. In 1940 they opened their meetings to their brother Scouts in the First who had been deprived of their own headquarters, and in 1941 both troops were sharing St George's hall in Common View with Sixth Letchworth until the war was over.

In March 1941, the Third changed their Scout uniform from navy shorts and grey shirts, to avoid confusion with the newly formed Air Scout branch. They continued in the more usual khaki until the group closed in 1947.

February 1928 saw the first activity in the old army huts which were the church rooms in Baldock Road and Pixmore Way. Announced initially as the First Willian (St Paul's) group, they had decided to be the Fourth Letchworth by the time of their first camp in May, in the grounds of Willian Rectory. The Scoutmaster, Sidney Francis Lee, was assisted by William Joseph Underwood; but by the time IHQ registered the group as number 12035 in November 1930, Mr Underwood was the Scoutmaster and also held the entirely new post of Group Scoutmaster.

(to be continued)

### Garden City 15 Mile Charity Walk - Sunday 14th May 2000

The 18th annual Rotary Club of Letchworth Garden City 15 mile walk will take place on Sunday 14th May 2000. The walk takes place around the borders of Letchworth and is fully marshalled with check-points, route map and refreshments.

Have FUN and raise funds for your Group or charity.

Registration Fee of £1.50 per walker is charged to help with administration and refreshment costs.

**(PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ROTARY CLUB HAVE KINDLY AGREED TO REFUND THIS FEE TO THE DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF CAMP 2000)**

75% of the money raised will be retained by the walkers for the Group or Charity of your choice and 25% will be payable to The Rotary Club of Letchworth Garden City.

Entry Forms are available from Rotarian Jim Morley, 17 Wilbury Road, Letchworth, SG6 4JW

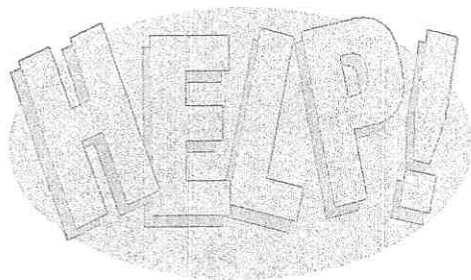
Tele: 01462 630946



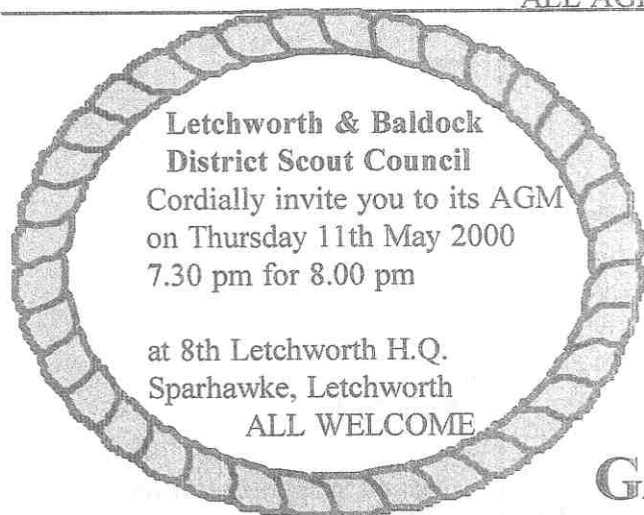
### In Memory of Ken Hart

"As a result of Doris' request that any donations on the death of Ken be given to Norton Bury, she has presented us with a gift of £700. In order to keep Ken's memory alive it is suggested that we establish a trust fund in Ken's name - the interest to be used to pay the fees of a local unit for a weekend visit to Norton Bury. In addition we would like to plant an oak tree at the Centre with a suitably worded plaque. We think we would need about £2000 to make the plan viable. If there is anyone else in the District who would like the opportunity of contributing to such a fund, we would ask them to contact our treasurer - Bryn Roberts, 52 Cowslip Hill, Letchworth (Tel: 683485). Norton Bury will then make the sum collected up to £2000 out of its own funds and arrange for a trust to be legally constituted"

Barbara Crombie - Norton Bury Chairperson



Come along and help at Norton Bury to refurbish the It's A Knock Out equipment in readiness for the Millennium Camp.  
 Date: Sunday 30th April 2000  
 Time: 10.00 am - 3.00 pm  
 Venue: Norton Bury Activity Centre  
 All materials and equipment will be supplied just come along in your scruffs. Refreshments will be provided.  
**ALL AGES WELCOME**



**Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council**  
 Cordially invite you to its AGM  
 on Thursday 11th May 2000  
 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm  
 at 8th Letchworth H.Q.  
 Sparhawke, Letchworth  
**ALL WELCOME**

## COUNTY COOKING COMPETITION

Congratulations to 4th Letchworth who once again gave an excellent demonstration of their cooking skills to gain third place in the County Cooking Competition.

Well done  
 Joel Miller, Adam Robson,  
 Philip Nunnington  
 and Craig White.



## GANG SHOW

Traditions always build up around a Gang Show. A recent one here has been that the DC asks for a review in "CO-ORDINATOR" from the only person still prepared to flaunt a red scarf dated 1957. However, on the Friday this year, Bob thought I wouldn't want to write as usual. Yes, it would have been difficult, because the first night was pretty dreadful. That's an old tradition from the 1960s: too little rehearsal, some forgotten lines, clumsy chorus movement, missed cues for lights and music, might have led to despair. But the magical spirit of Gang Show won through. With hard work and determination the Saturday afternoon performance was twenty times better, and by the evening it all worked splendidly, bringing loud and well deserved applause from a near-capacity audience. Nothing went seriously wrong, although we had the revival of the forty year old tradition of the long silent gap between scenes. Even these were used to create a new star in the furniture shifter who won the hearts of the entire audience.

By tradition, we shouldn't name individuals in the Gang, but Adam Robson's hilarious recitation of his own parade of puns (while slowly vanishing under an avalanche of football scarves) was something rather special. Robin Hood's Merry Men In Tights, reappearing later as clumping great Little Swans in tutus, were the stuff of a tradition that should never die. Thank goodness for Venture Scouts who are still prepared to do this sort of thing, and to be happily upstaged by a certain ASL's glittering entrance in "Hello Dolly". This was in the even older outrageous tradition of the British Hall where Ralph Reader found the roots of all Gang Shows ever after.

Nevertheless, it is always the stars of the future who steal the show, including the tiniest Brownies hurrying to keep step with their long legged brothers and sisters. And there were real stars in the youngsters performing "5,6,7,8" with vigour and verve that had one old reviewer quite breathless with admiration

We may have been spoilt by the continual brilliance of the Gang Show in Harpenden or St Albans, which are in another league altogether, but in the end we saw that the great tradition is still alive and well in Letchworth and Baldock.

KJ

## County Guide AGM

Thanks to Hertfordshire Guides who invited some members of the District team to their AGM at County Hall on Saturday 18th March.

We enjoyed a well run meeting, an interesting talk on Guiding Archives, an excellent tea provided by the Trefoil Guild and, above all, good company.

## POR AMENDMENTS TO CHILD PROTECTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICES

The following amendments have been incorporated in to Policy, Organisation and Rules and are effective immediately

### **Policy: The Child Protection Policy of the Association**

*Delete the current text and  
replace with*

It is the policy of The Scout Association to safeguard the welfare of all Members by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

Accordingly, The Scout Association is committed to:

- \* taking into account in all its consideration and activities the interests and well-being of young people;
- \* respecting the rights, wishes and feelings of the young people with whom it is working;
- \* taking all reasonable practicable steps to protect them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse; and
- \* promoting the welfare of young people and their protection within a relationship of trust.

#### **Rule 2b.2**

*delete the current text and replace with .....*

It is the responsibility of all adults to ensure that:

- \* their behaviour is appropriate at all times;
- \* they observe the rules established for the safety and security of young people;

\* they follow the procedures following suspicion, disclosure or allegation of child abuse;

\* they recognize the position of trust in which they have been placed; and

\* in every respect, the relationships they form with the young people under their care are appropriate.

NOTE: the guidelines Young People First set out a code of behaviour which is essential for all adults in Scouting to follow. The guidelines are available from the Scout Information Centre.

### **Policy: The Equal Opportunities Policy of the Association**

#### **Note with reference to gender:**

*Delete the current text and replace with*

Membership of the training sections of the Association is open to girls and young women of the appropriate ages subject to a process of local self-determination in each Scout Group as to whether existing single-sex provision should become co-educational.

### **Leaders and other Volunteers**

#### **Note:**

*Delete the current text and replace with.....*

Paedophilia is a bar to any involvement in the Scout Movement.

#### **Rule 2a.1**

*Delete the current text and replace with.....*

All Adults in Scouting have a responsibility for the operation of the Association's equal opportunities policy.

#### **Rule 2a.4**

*Delete the current text and replace with.....*

Appointments sub-Committees are required to operate the Association's equal opportunities policy in their work.

#### **Rule 2a.5**

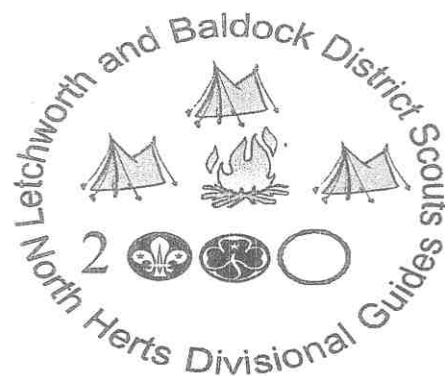
*Delete the current text and replace with .....*

Guidelines on the policy are available from the Scout Information Centre.



# CAMP 2000

## 26TH - 29TH MAY



The scene is set for an exciting weekend for Scouts and Guides to celebrate the millennium. We are expecting four hundred campers together with day visitors.

The camp will commence with an opening ceremony including a fireworks display followed by a disco.

On the Saturday the Scouts and Guides will go to the Wyboston Water Activity Centre where the activities include an aqua sausage, quad bikes, dragon boating, water skiing, jet bikes and raft building. There will also be team building challenges and a Barbecue lunch.

The Cubs will have a day at the circus where they will learn circus skills.

In the meantime at Norton Bury Beavers will be taking part in the Crystal Maze.

In the evening the Cubs will go to the Letchworth Leisure Centre for a swim party and there will be a camp fire for the Scouts and Guides.

On Sunday the Cubs are visiting Woburn Safari Park and there will be bases at Norton Bury for the Scouts and Guides.

In the evening the Cubs will have a camp fire and the Scouts and Guides will go swimming at the Letchworth Swimming Pool.

On Monday there will be an adventure hike for everyone in the morning and we have a surprise up our sleeves for the closing ceremony in the afternoon.

We will need as many leaders as possible to run this extensive programme so please inform your ADC of your availability and also try to recruit parental help.

Some parents have responded to the appeal in the parents newsletter but we could do with many more. Light refreshments will be available to Leaders throughout thanks to the Scout Fellowship and the St John's Ambulance Brigade will be in attendance.



### ADULT HELPERS

#### a reminder

Please do not forget that in accordance with Child Protection Regulations all adults helping you must receive proper clearance through a WE form. If you need further advice please contact Ron Smith (682900)

### COUNTY 25/40 MILE WALK

30th June - 2nd July

This years walk will take place along the North Norfolk Coastal Path between Hunstanton and Cromer. It is open to Ventures and older Scouts. We always have good fun at this event so why not come along and join the elite members of the District who have achieved this challenge.

Look out for entry details in next month's Co-ordinator (more details of the Challenge are given in April's HSG).

MORE...

# Diary Dates 2000

## APRIL 2000

5th	Appointment Committee
12th	1st Ashwell AGM 6.30pm
13th	District Executive
13th	District Scout Leaders Meeting
15th	District Beaver Challenge
17th	Camp 2000 Meeting
21st	Good Friday
23rd	Easter Sunday

## MAY 2000

1st	Appointments Committee
4th	Camp 2000 Meeting
5th	Raffle Ticket Deadline
6th	County Cub Football
6th	St George's Day Rehearsal
7th	St George's Day Parade and Service
8th	District Cub Leaders Meeting
8th	11th Letchworth AGM
9th	Millennium Meeting
10th	Beavers Crystal Maze Meeting
11th	District A.G.M.
11th	Camp 2000 Raffle Draw
14th	Letchworth Rotary 15 Mile Walk
16th	5th Letchworth A.G.M.
17th	Camp 2000 Meeting
20th	District Triathlon
25th	Beech Springs A.G.M.
26th - 29th	Camp 2000 - Norton Bury

## June 2000

5th	Beaver Leaders Meeting
8th	Meet The District Team
9th	2nd Baldock AGM 6.45pm
17th	District Scout Fishing Competition
22nd	District PL's Council
29th	Scout Leaders Meeting
30th June - 2nd July	County 25/40 Mile Walk

*Distributed by:*

*The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council*

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## NORTON BURY WARDENS

28 March - 4 April	Lee & Emma Crossman 634676
4 April - 11 April	Elaine Wigglesworth 626218
11 April - 18 April	Barbara Crombie 671062
18 April - 25 April	Ruth Baker 682752
25 April - 2 May	Nora Hitcham 627905
2 May - 9 May	Sean Howard 679209
9 May - 16 May	Ann Martin 627439
16 May - 23 May	Pauline Gimson 677993
23 May - 30 May	Jeff Robson 684954
30 May - 6 June	Maureen Kell 684665

## Ring the changes

Lorraine Robson 4th Let ASCL  
Tele: 01462 636911

Wendy Neath 2nd Baldock BSL  
Tele: 01462 637122

Rod Tiplady - Chairman Fellowship  
Tele: 01462 670192