



# Co-ordinator

## The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

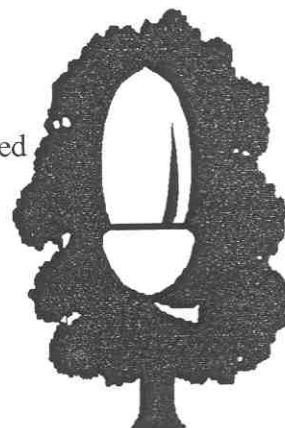


### St George's Day Awards

The District are proud to announce that two members of the District have been honoured in this years' St George's Day Awards.

Kenneth Johnson (K.J.) has been awarded the Silver Wolf "In recognition for service of the most exceptional nature to Scouting". Bob Williams, District Commissioner as been awarded the Silver Acorn "In recognition of specially distinguished service".

I am sure that you would like to join with the District Executive in congratulating them both on their outstanding achievement. Their commitment and dedication to Scouting is an inspiration to us all.



## Congratulations

Glenn Coiley VSL - Beech Springs - Chief Scout's Commendation  
Dave Hawkins ADC (Cubs) - Chief Scout's Commendation  
Rita Hawkins District PRO - Chief Scout's Commendation

### Long Service Awards

Meryvn Templeton District Water Adviser - 25 years  
Sue Lovelock CSL 5th Letchworth - 15 years

### 10 Years

Christopher Bryan	Fellowship
Glenn Coiley	VSL - Beech Springs
Deb Dilley	ADC( Beavers)
Fiona Eve	BSL 8th Letchworth
Nick Farmer	GSL 5th Letchworth
Peter Frankland	SL 4th Letchworth
David Hawkins	ADC (Cubs)
Wendy Neath	BSL 2nd Baldock
Chris Lunnon	VSL - Bacchus
Julie Speltinckx	BSL 8th Letchworth
Patrick Tomkins	ASL 11th Letchworth
Monica Thomason	GSL 12th Letchworth
Sheila Staines	BSL 1st Baldock

### 5 Years

Maggie Coiley	VSL Beech Springs
Rupert Gadd	GSL 2nd Weston
Sonya Hall	BSL 1st Baldock
Rita Hawkins	Chairman - 2nd Baldock
Rob Hemmings	GSL 1st Baldock
Deborah Hoeg	Fellowship
Graham Hopkins	SL 8th Letchworth
Nick Jewell	CSL 1st Ashwell
Chris King	ADC (Scouts)
Sue King	AVSL - Beech Springs
Ann Martin	ACSL 11th Letchworth
Lorraine Robson	ASL 4th Letchworth
Geoff Smith	ASL 5th Letchworth
Carl Speltinckx	ASL 8th Letchworth
Simon Tierney	ACSL 2nd Weston
Dave Upson	SL 5th Letchworth

## Uniform Consultation

At the National Executive Committee Meeting on 29 March, the Executive Committee reviewed the progress to-date on the uniform consultation. The Executive Committee looked at the timetable for the proposed wider consultation, for making decisions, and for making supplies of the eventual new uniform available. It was agreed that this timetable should be shared widely with County/Area Commissioners, and should be published on ScoutBase.

- May 2000 - Committee of the Council agrees the detailed principles for consultation
- June 2000 - Committee of Council agrees consultation material
- July - November 2000 - Movement-wide consultation (meetings, magazine, ScoutBaseUK, mailings, etc.)
- September 2000 - Interim progress report and presentation to the Association's AGM
- December 2000 - Committee of the Council receives the results of the consultation and makes decisions: initial production commences
- February 2001 - Publicity launch of new uniform items (first showing of range)
- By summer 2001 - New uniform available from Scout Shops Limited and from licensed suppliers (exact date TBA)

It is hoped that by starting the wide consultation in early July, advantage can be taken to obtain the views of our young people who will be attending major events during the summer. This can supplement the local discussions and feedback from Groups and Districts which will take place during the autumn. This also should give time for those local discussions to be prepared and planned for.

Sensible advice also needs to be given to members (young people and adults) who join the Movement as the date of the introduction of the new uniform approaches. No decisions about the new uniform have yet been made, and that includes there being no decision about the period of overlap when the new uniform and the present uniform may be worn. However, even at this early stage it is hoped that this clarification of the process and timetable will be helpful, and will assist local planning.

**Derek Twine - Chief Executive.**

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## HEADQUARTERS MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION 2001 - 2002

Taking account of all the information available, the Committee determined that the Headquarters membership subscription for the year 2001 - 2002 should be fixed at **£15.00 per member.**

The Committee had taken this early decision in order to give Groups and Districts ample notice of the figure for planning and budgeting purposes. At the same time, the Committee hopes that you will continue to take every opportunity - in conjunction with other volunteer organizations working with young people - to alert local Members of Parliament and others to the severe threat posed to our work by the Home Office's continued insistence on bringing in a scheme of criminal records checks that will cost the movement at least £750,000 every year.

## NEWS FROM 4TH LETCHWORTH

After their success in the District Cooking Competition 4th Letchworth Scouts sent their team of budding Chefs to represent the District in the County finals at Broxbourne. The Team:

Joel Miller  
Craig White  
Adam Robson  
Philip Nunnington

They had to prepare a meal for 5 within a budget of £12.00 present it correctly, hygienically, cooked properly all on two gas burners, using three billie cans, a camp dixie and a frying pan. Not something I would even attempt at home let alone in a Scout HQ watched by an eagle eyed judge who was also a top Chef.

### The Menu

#### Starter: "Seriously Sensational Salad"

A tasty salad starter which comprised of fresh feta, terrific tuna and tempting tomatoes on a super salad of luscious leafy lettuce and rings of red onions. Doused in a delicious dressing of beautiful balsamic vinegar, this stunning starter is too magnificent to be missed !  
Served with fabulous French bread, you would be foolish not to favour the flavours of this, 4th Letchworth's simply superb starter, just the opening to a magical meal !

#### Main Course - "The Tender Teriyaki Treat"

Try our tasty teriyaki and test your taste buds with the super side dishes too. Along with the tantalizing taste of teriyaki, our delicious dish will offer you a bed of ravishing rice, and a variety of spectacular sesame vegetables. To add flavour, the marvellous meal also consists of splendid soya sauce, gorgeous garlic, glorious ginger, and superb sherry. Finally as the finishing touch to this magical main course we are giving you great garnish in the form of sumptuous spring onions.

#### Dessert - "Caramelized Custard Cuisine"

Our delicious dessert is comprised of appetizing apples, outstanding oranges and perfect plums and is covered with exquisite egg custard. Served decorated with fabulous kiwi fruit and topped off with palatable praline, it is a delightful dessert to conclude your memorable meal courtesy of the expert culinary chefs from 4th Letchworth Scout Group.

Well done team. In the face of stiff competition from seven other teams 4th Letchworth came third narrowly missing a place in the regional finals in Gloucester. I am not sure if the nerves would have stood another round.

Many thanks to:

Lorraine Robson (Gofer) for her help and support  
Margaret Miller for her culinary advice and kitchen  
Chris King for driving and being there  
Bob Williams for his personal support  
Rita Hawkins for eating all of the rice  
Joel, Craig, Adam and Philip for working so hard and taking part.



## **A CENTURY OF SCOUTING: PART 5**

Letchworth had two Boy Scouts Troops in 1926, and the Salvation Army began the first of its local attempts to copy the idea with the inauguration on 28 January of the "First Letchworth Troop of Life-Saving Scouts" led by Mr H. Pidgeon with the membership restricted to Army families. The original B.-P. First and Second continued to flourish, and in April SM Ralph West suggested it was time for the town to have its own Local Association. Letchworth Rotary Club heard about this and quickly decided to sponsor the formation of the Letchworth Local Association - although this still remained as part of Hitchin Scout District for another 18 years !

Scoutmasters and officials of the two troops nevertheless held the first ever "District AGM" on 16 November 1928. In the following February, Third Letchworth was registered as one of the new combined Boy Scout and Wolf Cub Groups, number 9455 at Imperial Headquarters, and Fourth Letchworth began activities at St Paul's leading to its group registration on St Andrew's Day 1930. The Fourth, however, had actually been preceded by the Fifth, registered as a church group on 26 March 1929. The newly arrived curate of Letchworth parish, Philip Rees Greville, was already a keen Scouter and led the new troop, with its own Cub pack in charge of his housekeeper Miss Ida Bridges, at the Mission Hall in Spring Road. This building was later renamed as St Gabriel's Church, and years later became, by coincidence, the home of a different Fifth Letchworth group. The 1929 Fifth gained the honorary title of "Father Greville's Own" and had regular summer camps at Llanmaes and Barry Island in South Glamorgan, until Father Greville was called to a parish in Rotherhithe, south London, in 1935. The Scout group disintegrated and was soon forgotten, except by some of its members who are still around, like Frank Blay in Broadwater Avenue and Arthur Peters in Letchworth Lane.

All five troops put on a combined display on St Valentine's Day 1931, to inaugurate the new "District Hut", better described in "The Citizen" as the "splendid new headquarters" opposite Spirella in Nevells Road. On loan from the First Garden City Company, it was one of the famous "Sheds" which had already served as the Garden City's first council school, as a shelter for the unemployed and as a gramophone factory. "Uncle" Ralph West joined teams of Scouts and Rovers in wiring the building for electric light, decorating and painting, and scraping the floor of the glue which was the legacy of its last use as a bookbinding works. Now it was a suitable home for the Letchworth Local Association and a clubroom for all Rovers, Scouts and Wolf Cubs as well as the regular meeting place for the First and Second Scouts and Rovers who had finally outgrown the space in the old Boy's Club in Broadway.

At the "housewarming" display, Third Letchworth Cubs delighted everyone with their jungle dance, while their Scout troop kept up an early Letchworth tradition of country dancing by demonstrating a sword dance, earning hearty applause. "The evening", said "The Citizen", "was considerably enhanced by the installation of an electric gramophone by Mr Parcell."

In October 1930, Letchworth's fifth annual general meeting was held in the new District headquarters, chaired by Howard E. Hurst, the prominent local builder. On this occasion, Mr H.B. Ford presented a challenge trophy which had been subscribed for by friends and supporters of the Boy Scout movement, for a new annual camping competition. To be called the "Icknield Shield", it was awarded to the winning team for 1930 which consisted of three First Letchworth Patrol Leaders, Hopkins, Raven and Thompson, with Scouts Gough and Harkness. Can anyone supply their first names for the historical record ?

A Sixth Letchworth Scout group was registered from 1931 to 1934, sponsored by the Free Church, with the Rev. R.G. Ramsay listed as Scoutmaster in the 1933 directory, but it doesn't seem to have made much impact in the town at this stage.

All this time, First Baldock, with a couple of patrols from First Radwell, were keeping the flame of Scouting alive in the far south west corner of Royston District.



A successful Whit Monday fete brought crowds of supporters to the Avenue Meadow on 9 June 1930. The next new year started well with a social gathering in the Baldock headquarters, during which SM A.H. Newling was able to hand over the final cheque to pay off the last of the debt on the building in Clothall Road that had cost them £200, ten years before.

In spite of the facility of the Letchworth headquarters, not all went well, for Second Letchworth group was losing boys and by 1933 the group's registration was cancelled, leaving the First Scouts, Cubs and Rovers there, with the Third continuing to meet at Pixmore School for a few more years until the troop closed down, leaving only the Wolf Cub pack. Fourth Letchworth went merrily on throughout the 1930s decade under the leadership of Gordon Taylor as SM and GSM, and Cubmaster Eva Slaughter. The worst news came in March 1935, when First Garden City Limited decided that those historic "Sheds" in Nevells Road, now thirty years old, were becoming a bit of an eyesore and had to go. First Letchworth group was therefore homeless, and at the Letchworth Association's AGM, held in the Church Rooms, Commerce Avenue, in November, a drop in numbers was reported - although the Association was still in credit, with a balance of 12 shillings and ninepence.

Ralph West, now Assistant District Commissioner, reported that the Association owned a piece of land in Cowslip Hill and plans were prepared for a new Scout HQ there, with a building fund already standing at £7/10s. The President of Letchworth Round Table, Mr Howard Hurst, persuaded that great organization to make a generous offer of help, and the Civic Trust also gave a small grant.

An estimated cost of £650 came with the plans, published in June 1936, drawn up by an old Letchworth Scout, K.A. Raven, who was employed as an architect by the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Fund raising began at once, with the main event being a gala, fun fair and "Jamboree" for two days in June on the Arena, the open space between Broadway and Eastcheap. The County Commissioner, now also Deputy Chief Commissioner of the Boy Scouts Association, Sir Percy Everett came to open the event on the Friday, but showers spoiled the folk dancing and other displays, while Saturday's events were almost completely washed out. Profits for the building fund were much smaller than hoped for, but with more money-raising events and various donations, half the cost was raised by October 1936 and building began - not in Cowslip Hill after all, but on a vacant site near Spirella, in Icknield Way. Sir Percy Everett returned on Saturday 13 March 1937, to open the new Letchworth District Headquarters and to present a "spear of friendship", which he hoped would pierce deep into the hearts of the people of Letchworth".

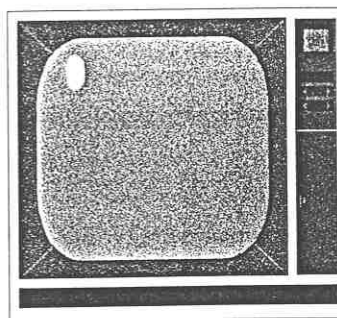
Another job had been found for Ralph West during this time, as after eight years' leadership of the Baldock troop, Mr Newling resigned in November 1936 and for a while Scouting in Baldock was in grave danger of ceasing to exist. Ralph, who also acted as Rover Scout Leader in Letchworth, brought some of his older lads to give a hand, and together with the Baldock Rovers they kept the troop going until in the spring of 1937 Mr E.J. Bonugli volunteered to act as Scoutmaster, assisted soon afterwards by Mr E. Hubbard. At the County Commissioner's suggestion, Royston's DC Sir Cecil Neumann agreed to the transfer of Baldock from his District to that of Hitchin.

Nearly four thousand Scouts from all over the County attended the annual St George's Day service in 1937, which was held as usual in St Albans Cathedral, the Cubs being decanted into St Peter's church. About 70 went from Letchworth groups: the First, Third, Fourth, and Sixth. Yes, the Sixth Letchworth had risen again in October 1935, once more sponsored by the Free Church with the Rev. R.G. Ramsay as its GSM and Ivor Bayley as Scoutmaster. Joe Waldock is recorded as its first Cubmaster. The troop wore a distinctive uniform of all grey shirts and shorts instead of the more usual khaki.

As Letchworth expanded in the Wilbury area, the new church then known as St Thomas à Becket was the ideal centre for a new group, and Seventh Letchworth was registered as number 19514 on 22 June 1938. The Rev. H.G. Herrington, as sponsoring authority, was listed as Group Scoutmaster but the new troop was led by W.J. ("Ted") Furness in the two years that remained before the outbreak of the second world war.

## Careers in TV

Television and Young People, the educational arm of The Guardian Edinburgh International Television Festival, is offering an exciting education and training initiative for young people aged 18 -21 who have an interest in TV. 150 people who aspire to work in television are being offered five days in master classes, workshops, lectures and one-to-one career surgeries. The event is 26-30 August 2000 and all expenses are paid



Full details can be found on [www.tvyp.co.uk](http://www.tvyp.co.uk)

## Spend a Year in the Arctic ?



Mark Evans is leading a 12 month expedition for British Schools Exploring Society to Svalbard, from 2001 - 2002. Their web site [www.arcticyear.org](http://www.arcticyear.org) is now on-line.

If you will be aged between 16.5 and 20 in 2001, at the time of the expedition, like a challenge and think that you might have what it takes to get involved in Arctic Year have a look at [www.arcticyear.org](http://www.arcticyear.org)

## District Cub Football Trials

The District held two football trials in April to choose a team to represent the District at the County Football Compassion in Hemel Hempstead on 6 May.

Thank you to Doug Neath for running the trials and taking on the difficult task of choosing the eight Cubs to form the team.

I know it was a difficult job as there were many good players at the trials. Thank you to all the Cubs and parents who took time, especially at the first trial in the pouring rain, to take part and cheer the Cubs on.

We wish the District Team all the best in the competition. Look out for the report in next months Co-ordinator.

ON  
THE  
BALL

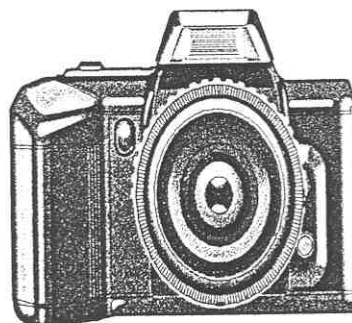


## Scouting Photography: Prize Pictures

Members who are keen amateur photographers and who regularly photograph Scouting events might like to look at the following web site for details of the Guardian/National Centre for Volunteering photographic competition.

<http://www.volunteering.org.uk/photocompetition.htm>

Entries have to be submitted by 31 May and the winners will be announced during Volunteers' Week (June 1-7 2000)



## GANG SHOW

I was part of the stage crew for this years Gang Show, the rest of the crew were made up with a couple of Beech Springs Ventures. Our main task was to have everything in an order which will go on first.

Whilst working backstage the younger members of the Gang always respected the crew members, we were always willing to lend a hand to someone who lost an item of their props. All in all the main thank you I need to give is to Andrea Soulsby for producing yet another amusing show.

Lastly I would like to say just another thank you to Mike and Liz from Beech Springs, I don't think I could have moved the scenery without their help. Thanks guys.

Chris Lewis - Helper  
1st 3rd Letchworth



## GANG SHOW

I was in the Gang Show recently and, at the start, I sang a song. It was on the 24/25 March on a Friday and a Saturday at the Plintson Hall. In the Gang Show I did a dance with my friends, my brother and my mum. It was 5,6,7,8. We had a lot of rehearsals for 5,6,7,8 at my house. All my friends and family came to see me. On Friday I got invested on stage during the interval, this was a big surprise. During the show I also dressed up as a cowboy, a child from London and a chorister. We also did a section called "Putting on the Ritz", we did tap dancing in sparkly clothing. It was great fun and I made new friends.

## DISTRICT BARBECUE

The annual District Barbecue will be held at Norton Bury on Wednesday 5 July 2000 from seven o'clock.

The price will be £4.00 per adult and £2.00 per child under twelve. Under five's are free. Price includes all food and your first drink.

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



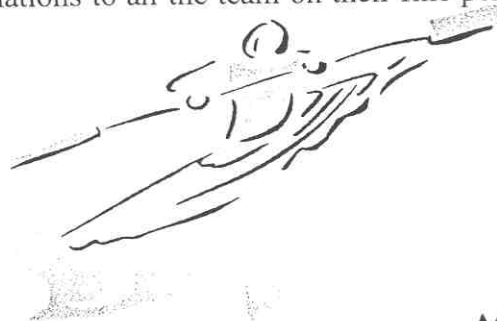
## 1st Baldock Scouts

### Retain their County Canoe Slalom Title

After a weekend's keen competition at Rickmansworth aquadrome 1st Baldock emerged as winner of the County Canoe Slalom for the sixth time.

David Hull won the individual title with David Staines gaining second place and a young team gave them the support to win the overall trophy.

Congratulations to all the team on their fine performance.



# Diary Dates 2000

## 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
12th	12th Letchworth AGM
14th	Letchworth Rotary 15 Mile Walk
16th	5th Letchworth A.G.M.
17th	Camp 2000 Meeting
17th	7th Letchworth AGM
20th	District Triathlon
21st	Baldock Rotary Walk
25th	Beech Springs A.G.M.
26th - 29th	Camp 2000 - Norton Bury

## June 2000

3rd	1st Baldock AGM - 5.00 pm
5th	Beaver Leaders Meeting
9th	2nd Baldock AGM 6.45pm
9th	4th Letchworth AGM
13th	ADC's Meeting
17th	District Scout Fishing Competition
22nd	District PL's Council
25th	Challenge 2000 - Quiz - Norton Bury
28th	Meet the District Team
29th	Scout Leaders Meeting
30th June - 2nd July	County 25/40 Mile Walk



## NORTON BURY WARDENS

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
6 June - 13 June	Bob Williams 686727
13 June - 20 June	Shelley Wisher 892163
20 June - 27 June	Carol Emsall 674543
27 June - 4 July	Sheila May 673427
4 July - 11 July	Barbara Crombie 671062

## Ring the changes

Rod Tiplady - Chairman Fellowship  
Tele: 01462 632647

*Distributed by:*

*The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council*

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