



October 2002 No: 486



# Co-ordinator



Girlguiding  
Hertfordshire



## A PACKET OF WALKERS !



Despite the weather varying between crisp and soggy, loads of Beavers, Rainbows, Brownie, Cubs, Guides, Scouts and Venture Scouts turned out for the **SPONSORED WALK**.

About 250 of you in fact.

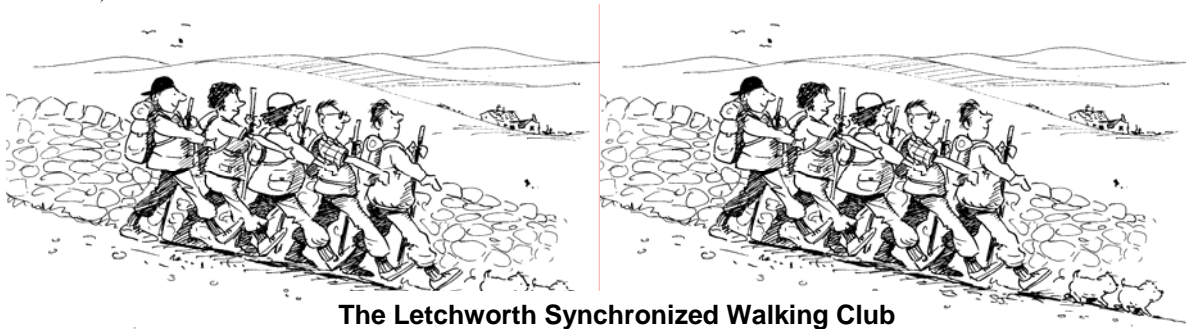
It looks like you will have raised over £2000, a quarter of which goes to your Group with the remainder for **THE WYMONDLEY WOOD SCOUT & GUIDE CENTRE**.

This amount will fit out one large room and is a significant contribution to the overall cost.

**WELL DONE !**

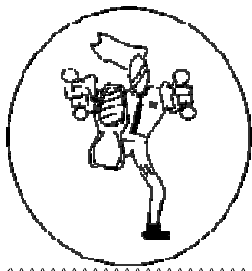
Please give your sponsorship monies to your Group Leader who can give The Wymondley share to Maureen Kell, Dave Hawkins, Bob Williams or the Scout & Guide Shop.

**A GREAT BIG THANKS TO YOU ALL**



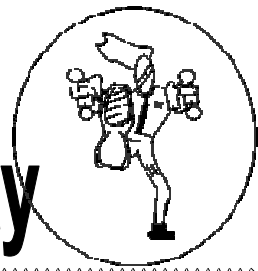
The Letchworth Synchronized Walking Club

**The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin**



# Beech Springs VSU

## 25th Anniversary party



Date: Saturday 14 December 2002  
Venue: Norton Bury  
Time: Mid-day until Midnight  
Cost: £5.00 per head for party and BBQ  
Bring your own drink

Overnight camping is available. Bring a tent.  
For further details please contact Nick Brown (Gumby)  
2 South Close, Baldock, SG7 6DS  
01462 892008 / 07810 641643 / nick\_b10@hotmail.com

**R.S.V.P. by 14 November 2002**

### 2002 Expo to Guernsey

This year's expedition was on the small island of Guernsey. Apparently most of the inhabitants of Guernsey knew we were coming and had made suitable preparations, e.g. stocking pubs, locking away daughters and boarding up windows. When we arrived there wasn't a huge crowd of people to welcome us, there was in fact no one.

The days consisted of many activities such as swimming in the sea or visiting St Peter's Port. For a few of us the whole experience of an expo turned into a history field trip. In fact for those of you who didn't know, during 1940 - 1945, Guernsey was occupied by German forces and a huge number of defensive positions were built as part of Hitler's Atlantic Wall.

Anyway back to the Venture stuff. Some of us enjoyed climbing and others just enjoyed the laid back attitude of doing nothing.



### The Greenway Sponsored Walk (in aid of Wymondley Wood Activity Centre)

The day dawned bright and the anxious marshals assemble at Standalone farm wondering how many would turn out for the walk around the Garden City following the new Heritage Greenway.

They need not have worried for over two hundred walkers set out equipped with their maps and route instructions. There were representatives of the whole movement from Rainbows and Beavers with their Leaders and parents to the hardened stalwarts of Peak Assault in the Bacchus VSU contingent.

The walkers left Standalone Farm towards Fearnhill School and across the fields to the second checkpoint near Wyevale Garden Centre. They continued to Purwell and through the countryside for welcome refreshments (and loos!) at Wymondley Wood where our new activity centre is being built.

continued.....

At this point many of the younger ones took advantage of the minibus service back to base. The hardy ones continued around Willian, towards Baldock and on to Norton Bury for more refreshments. From there the final stage back to Standalone Farm seemed relatively easy but a heavy shower in the early afternoon ensured all walkers got a good soaking.

For many it was their first introduction to the Heritage walk and even those who did not complete it vowed to return to complete the unfinished section.

The day was marked by the enthusiasm and enjoyment of the walkers and looks like being a huge financial success—first estimates suggest over £2000 has been raised.

Well done to the organisers and to all who took part in the walk. We can only agree with the many walkers who said “We must do it again—perhaps in the opposite direction”.

Thank you all

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# Explorer Scout Workshop



Venue: 8th Letchworth HQ - Sparhawke  
Date: Friday 18 October  
Time: 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm  
Open to: All young people who will be 14 (ish) or over on 1 January 2003  
Parents and Guardians of the young people.

Refreshments will be available, cheese and wine for those over 18, non-alcoholic for those under 18.

The new Explorer Scout section is for Scouts between the ages of 14 - 18. It has been designed to give the older Scouts the challenge of bigger and better activities, more responsibility and far more flexibility in the running of the Units for their benefit.

## **District Skills Day**

This year's District Skills Day will be held at Cottered on Sunday 24 November from 10 am till 4 pm. Lunch will be provided. All Group Executive members are also invited to attend for part of the day as we aim to hold some Administrator workshops as well.

To ensure the day is as successful as previous years, please could you let Andrea Soulsby know as soon as possible any particular areas of Scouting you would like covered during the day.

## **District Jamboree**

The District Jamboree is being held at Wymondley Wood from Friday 23 May until Monday 26 May 2003. We would like all sections from all groups to attend and make this Jamboree as successful as our other ones. A leader in each section of each group will shortly be receiving a letter regarding the Jamboree. Please ensure that you return the form indicating whether you intend to participate or not by the end of October. If you are not intending to participate then please let us know, it is not so that we can try and change your mind, it is just so that we know why? It could be because your leaders are all away on their family holidays.

For the District Jamboree we would like to divide the camp up into several sub-camps and thus we are looking for some Sub-Camp Leaders. If you feel that you would like to be a sub-camp leader then please let Andrea Soulsby or Dave Hawkins know as soon as possible.

The next meeting to discuss the plans for the Jamboree will be on Thursday 17 October – anyone is welcome to come along to Norton Bury for 8 pm and add their thoughts/comments to the proceedings.

In the meantime please pray for sunny weather for the end of May as we do not wish to have a repeat of the Millennium Camp!



# International Experience Opportunity

Sherwood 2003 is set to be one of the biggest events of its kind bringing together thousands of Scouts and Guides from around the World. Taking place in the summer of 2003 this international camp will provide the opportunity for members of the Scout and Guide Associations to experience hundreds of activities in the picturesque surroundings of Nottinghamshire's world renowned Sherwood Forest.

Full details can be found by visiting the camp's website

[www.sherwood2003.com](http://www.sherwood2003.com)



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## Message from the Communication Department—Gilwell

ScoutCount Software: Advice to Members

Members who have purchased the 'Scouting Essential' manual for the Programme will know that an addition to the package is a CD-ROM. This contains a considerable amount of information and graphics extending from images of all new Badges to a complete version of the latest Policy Organisation and Rules (POR).

Included on the CD-ROM is a record keeping database called ScoutCount. Experience has revealed that the software contains a number of bugs causing error and creating difficulties for users.

Expert advice has shown that the most practical way forward is to have the software professionally rewritten - subjected to a vigorous testing and evaluation phase - and then made available as ScoutCount Version 2.

It is the intention that this upgraded program will be made available free of charge in the Spring 2003. This will probably be done via the ScoutbaseUK website and/or replacement CD-ROM.

Owners of version 1 may wish to continue using the current programme and it is possible that some of the data from this may be transferable but this is not guaranteed so users may wish to continue to use their current record keeping systems.

The Scout Association  
E-mail 28 Sept 2002

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## GOOD NEWS !

There is good news and there is bad news. The good news that there is a great deal of **good news** happening in the world of Scouting. The bad news is that much of the **good news** remains buried.

What the District is looking for is a brief paragraph or two highlighting examples of some of the interesting or exciting things that have happened in your Group in the last year or so.

Perhaps you have started a new Section recently ? Did your recruitment drive produce new Leaders or Members ? Have you been involved in an international expedition ? Have you taken part in a County event ? Have you created a website ? Do you have a Group Newsletter ?

Please send your articles to:

Rita Hawkins, 1 South Close, Baldock, SG7 6DS or e-mail [rita.hawkins@ntlworld.com](mailto:rita.hawkins@ntlworld.com)

**Congratulations** to the following leaders who have completed training recently:-

Phase 3 – Carolyn Nunnington  
ACSL 7<sup>th</sup> Letchworth

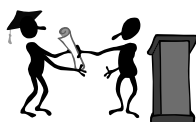


## Wardens Norton Bury

### Hertfordshire Training Dates coming up

- Phase 4 (Explorers/Ventures) – 19/20 Oct plus 2 other dates tba in 2003
- Phase 3/44 – 2 Feb plus 9 March 2003
- Phase 5/32 – Tues 11 Feb plus 29/30 March 2003
- Phase 4 (Cubs) – 28 Feb-2 March plus 16-18 May 2003

If you would like an application form or more details about the above training opportunities please contact Andrea Soulsby – ADC(Adult Training)



#### October

1	Peter Moules	435103
8	Bob Williams	686727
15	Ruth Baker	682752
22	Mick Balls	893855
29	Gwen Keech	894512

#### November

5	John Moys	487847
12	Val Bartlett	730817
19	Kay Skingsley	672544
26	Shirley Rossall	431884

#### December

3	Julia Pollard	686190
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### New Programme Queries

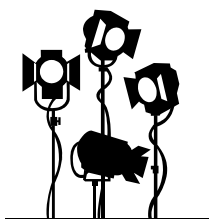
**Q. How many times can a young person in the Beavers, Cubs or Scouts attain any one of the Challenge Awards?**

**A.** There is no limit to the number of times a young person can do a particular challenge as long as they do a harder challenge if they redo one. However, you should remember that the Programme is a balanced one and the young people should be doing all the challenges available for the section. The other point to consider is whether the young person would have time during their time in a section to do three or four of the same challenge.

Any further questions about any aspect of the new programme can be given to Andrea Soulsby by phone (01462-643992), snail mail (32 The Rowans, Baldock) or E-Mail ([a.soulsby@ntlworld.com](mailto:a.soulsby@ntlworld.com))

### Gang Show

Yes, Gang Show rehearsals will be starting again in November. If you would like the Gang Show team to visit your pack or troop for a short promotion on what is involved in the Gang Show then please contact Dave Strong on Letchworth 624309 as soon as possible

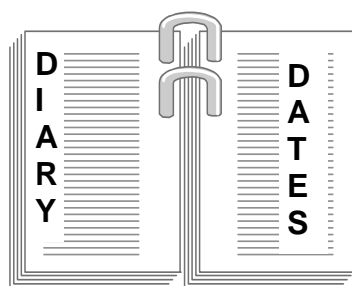


**GANG SHOW** - Last year we had a cast of 92. And that was a lot of kids running around at rehearsals. But 2002 was one of our best ever shows; an exciting buzz of nervous energy. And it was so rewarding, seeing the Cubs and Scouts and Brownies and Guides grow in confidence over the weeks, sharing their pre-show nerves, sharing their elation after success.

In previous years at this time of the year we have gone around the District visiting units and troops, selling Gang Show to the kids. We are nearly at the point where this is no longer necessary. If you want us to come to see you this year, please ask. Phone me on 624309, or e-mail [thestrongies@ntlworld.com](mailto:thestrongies@ntlworld.com) As usual we will only take up a quarter of an hour of your regular evening.

We would love to have more adults involved in the Show too. And NO we do not mean on stage; the show is for the kids. We really need leaders and helpers backstage. Making costumes, in dressing rooms, or at rehearsals. If you have had previous amateur theatrical experience, now is your chance to pass it on. If you have not - you do not know what you are missing! Come and join the buzz!!

**Dave Strong Secretary, Letchworth & Baldock GangShow**



# 20022002

## October

- 4 1st 3rd Letchworth AGM - 1st 3rd Letchworth HQ
- 5 District Beaver Scout Sports Day
- 6 District Cub Scout Sports day - 8th Letchworth HQ, Sparhawke
- 7 District Fund Raising Meeting - Norton Bury 8.00 pm
- 10 District Executive Meeting
- 12 Goodbye to Norton Bury
- 14 East Herts Recruitment Workshop - Well End
- 17 District Jamboree Meeting - Norton Bury 8.00 pm
- 18 District Explorer Workshop - 8th Letchworth HQ - 7.30 pm
- 19 Fellowship AGM - Guide Headquarters, Icknield Way
- 19 -20 District Scout Night Jar Competition
- 27 District Cub Scouts Outing—Paradise Park
- 29 County Scout Network Meeting

## November

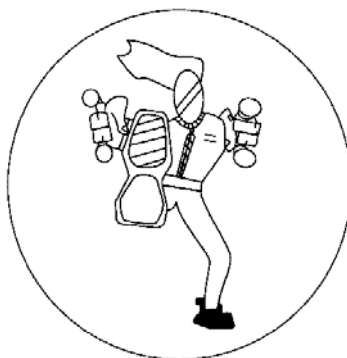
- 2 Gang Show Rehearsals 1st 3rd Letchworth HQ
- 2 Duke of Edinburgh's Awareness Day - Well End 10.00 am - 2.00 pm
- 10 Remembrance Service
- 11 District Cub Scout Leaders' Meeting Norton Bury 8.00 pm
- 14 District Executive Norton Bury 8.00 pm
- 14 County - District Explorer Scout Commissioners' Meeting - Tolmers 8.00 pm
- 15 District Cub Quiz - 5th Letchworth HQ, Spring Road
- 15/17 Green Beret
- 17 5th Letchworth Autumn Bazaar
- 20 District Shop AGM Norton Bury 8.00 pm
- 22 District Scout Quiz TBA
- 25 Norton Bury Committee Meeting Norton Bury 8.00 pm

## December

- 2 District Team Meeting The Orange Tree 8.00 pm
- 5 District Scout Leaders' Meeting Norton Bury
- 12 District Executive Norton Bury 8.00 pm
- 13 Norton Bury Wardens' Social Evening Norton Bury
- 14 Beech Springs VSU 25th Anniversary Norton Bury 4.00 pm until late

**Editor: Rita Hawkins**  
**1 South Close**  
**Baldock**  
**Hertfordshire**  
**SG7 6DS**

**(e-mail:rita.hawkins@ntlworld.com)**



### **Beech Springs VSU**

You and a guest have been invited to the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party

This will take place on Saturday the 14 of December 2002

At Norton Bury Campsite

From Mid-day till Midnight

Overnight Camping is available

Bring a tent

Cost is £5 per head for party and BBQ

Bring your own drink

I \_\_\_\_\_ wish to attend the Beech Springs VSU 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary party on the  
14 of December 2002.

I enclose £5 per person (cheques made payable to Beech Springs VSU) to cover the costs of the  
BBQ

I would like my tickets sent to:

Address:

Post Code:

Telephone number:

Please Reply to:

Nick Brown

2 South Close

Baldock

SG7 6DS

01462 892008

07810641643

nick\_b10@hotmail.com

**Please Reply by 14 November 2002.**