



April 2003 No: 492



Co-ordinator

**1st 3rd Letchworth and 12th Letchworth Beavers -
The first group to use the new Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide centre.
15 - 16 March 2003**



St George's Day Parade & Service

Sunday

27 April - St Mary's Church, Baldock



This year's parade will assemble at Brandles School, Baldock at 2.15 pm (If wet please go straight to the Church) Full dress uniform should be worn.

The parade will leave at 2.30 pm to make its way to the St Mary's Church for the service at 3.00 pm.

The rehearsal for colour parties and readers will take place on Saturday 26 April at 9.30 pm at St Mary's Church, Baldock. Colour parties need only wear their neckerchiefs at the rehearsal.

It is important that all colour parties attend the rehearsal.



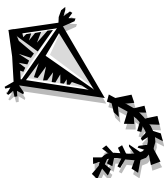
The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

Gang Show

Rehearsal Ramblings

How do you throw a snowball that is not there?

I opened the front door to 8th Letchworth Scout Hall in Sparhawk and turned on the light. It didn't work. There was only darkness. A power cut after the storm the night before? We tried trip switches, looked in cupboards for hidden fuse boxes, made endless phone calls until our mobiles ran dry. We had over a hundred people due at different times for different rehearsals. Nightmare? No. You just sort it. And we did. Transferred all to 1st/3rd. But it was tight.



How do you fly a kite when you have no string? And no kite?

Rehearsals can be boisterous and noisy. I am sure some people who have seen parts of them have wondered how we have coped for five months. And why we do it year after year. But we know why.

How do you scrub a floor without a scrubbing brush?

Little Brownies getting stuck inside dustbins. Trying to learn the inexplicable words of La Bamba. The horror of two young leaders having to rehearse Railway for the first time in front of an audience. Getting the shivers when two little girls sing Maybe right for the first time. We call that a 'moment'.



And the best is yet to come.

Being part of a team of 130 people on stage singing

"Make a New Tomorrow".

Magic!!

Editor's Note: Hopefully all will be clear on the night (28 - 30 April 2003 at St Francis College.)

**Dave Strong SL
7th Letchworth**

**Letchworth & Baldock District Scout
Council**



Cordially Invites you to its

A.G.M.

Thursday 8 May 2003

7.30 pm for 8.00 pm

at

Wymondley Wood Scout & Guide Centre

Wymondley Road, Willian, SG6 1AA



County Matrix Weekend

Date: 4 - 6 July 2003

Venue: Well End

Cost: £10.00

By popular demand the County will be holding another Matrix Weekend at Well End

All you have to do is book in, turn up and have fun.

The cost for this great weekend is only £10.00. Remember that the first weekend sold out fast, so don't hesitate book yourself in now or miss out.

admin@herts-scouts.net
Or phone county office
020 8236 0040



Arriving in Stevenage on a sunny Sunday morning, I was welcomed by a very enthusiastic and efficient RNIB team.

After registering in the foyer of the Ibis Hotel, I proceeded to the training area (a cordoned off area outside Tesco's) and completed my training and safety checks, although nervous I was excited and keen to get started. Many of my fellow fundraisers hadn't had the pleasure of abseiling previously and the tension was high.

We were able to use the Hotel lifts for the first six floors, an internal staircase took us to the boilerhouse on the seventh floor and finally (in my opinion the worst part)

an external ladder to the roof. It was much colder and far windier on the roof; it caught us all by surprise.

In pairs we walked across the roof towards two young and very patient men, who attached the safety lines and coaxed us over the barrier to the edge of the building.

Remembering not to look down, I lowered myself to the horizontal position, checked with my safety man and off I went. I was focused on the rope and my feet, it was hard work, walking backwards is so unnatural, the noise from the crowd grew louder until I could actually hear my seven year old calling me. Finally I was at the shop foyer and then on the ground.

At the bottom my first words were "can I do that again?"

Look out for me in September, I am hoping to take part in a 'tandem Parachute' with the Red Devils, again for RNIB.



Anyone else interested?

**Apryl Goodwin ACSL
4th Letchworth**



NETWORK

Scout Network County Camp

NETWORK

Date: 11 - 13 April 2003 - arrive Friday from 5.00 pm

Venue: Phasels Wood, Rucklers Lane, Kings Langley

Cost: £15.00

Activities: Climbing, Potholing, Air Rifle Shooting, Abseiling, Canoeing, Cresta Run, etc

On the Saturday there will be a disco with the St Trinians theme so don't forget to bring your school uniform.

For further details contact Katie "Bubble" Thorpe on just_bubble@hotmail.com

Well done to everyone who encouraged their Beavers to design a poster aimed at recruiting new Leaders. We had a terrific response and it was a difficult task choosing the six winners.

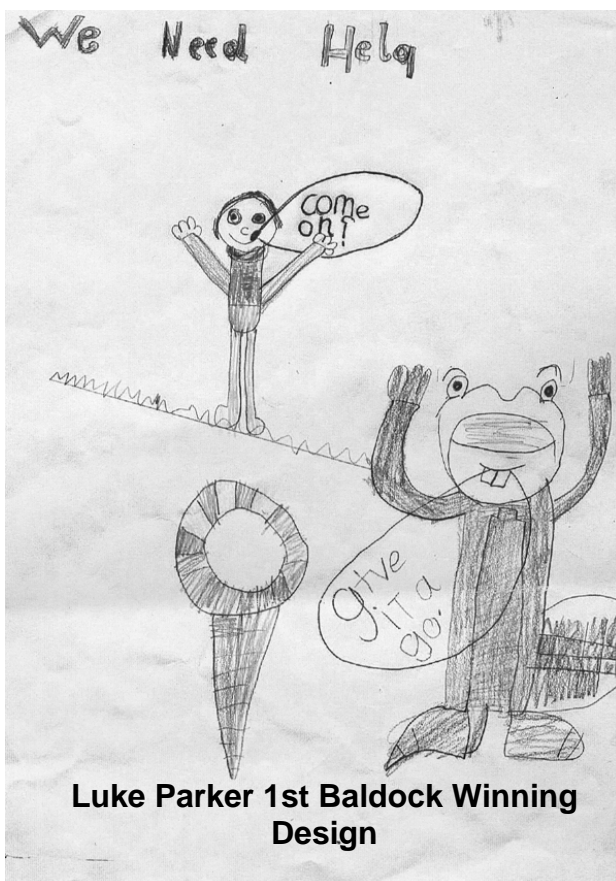
However, congratulations go to:

Michael Dawson-	1 st Tring
Oliver Hanley -	5 th Potters Bar
Luke Parker -	1 st Baldock
Oliver Gittens -	4 th Hitchin
Bradley Rose -	East Herts.
Henry Frakes -	1 st Rickmansworth

These designs have been reproduced onto a colourful, eye-catching poster which should be available in your District now. Please make sure they are on display and let us get those grown ups to share in the fun we have at Beavers. As one little lad put it –

**“COME AND PLAY – WE HOPE
YOU’LL STAY!”**

**Yours in Scouting
Phil Atkinson (Carrot)
ACC (Beavers)**



Luke Parker 1st Baldock Winning Design



Strong Men seen in the District.

A little bird told me that the Norton Bury Stone has mysteriously disappeared from Norton Bury Chapel area and has reappeared at The Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre.

When did this happen ? Who did this good deed?

Three good men and true - Geoff Smith, Tom Smith and Chris Gee with their combined strength lifted the stone. I wish I had been there to witness the sight.



**Watch out for District
details of the 25/40 mile
walk in next month's
Co-ordinator**

1st Baldock Cub Scouts (Knights)

At Cubs we made some bird boxes and on Wednesday the 12 March we went to Weston Way Nursery and presented the bird boxes to them. They like them very much. They are going to put them in some of the trees in the woods.

Richard Young, Dean Laing, Ben Lai, James Madley, Tom Durkin and Richard Hopewell met Akela at St Mary's School at 3.00 pm and they all walked down to the Nursery for 3.15 pm.

**Richard Hopewell
1st Baldock (Knights) Cub Scout**



I wish I'd known that was on!

"I wish I'd known that was on". How many of you have said this? It may have been a television programme, a football match or a Scouting activity!

As humans we have a fear of the unknown but equal to this a thirst for adventure. We never know if it is something we will want to do again or if we will ever have contact with it again. I was like this with, gliding. I'd never done it before and then an opportunity came along to have a go. I know now why I don't have any feathers, I'm not a small plane flyer! I also remember the first time I went rock climbing on real rocks. It was a real big buzz.

In Hertfordshire Scouting there is so much to do there is not enough time to do it all, so we have to choose what we can and what we can't do. **I choose what I can and what I can't do.** Would it be fair of me to make that decision on your behalf? The answer to that is '**NO**'. So the only fair thing to do is to give you all the information so that you can decide for yourself.

It may mean I have to ask around to see if there are others who are going. I may have to book you into the event, I may on the odd occasion even have to take you there, or arrange for someone to take you, if you could not get to the event yourself.

There are some events that we as a District have not entered for many years, if at all, for the simple reason, it's not something we normally do. "We did not do it last year so we won't do it this year". "They are all too young and they are not ready!" "They stand a chance of coming last, and that will not do them any good!" "They can't afford that, it's too much"

Any of the above sound familiar. Be honest!

If as leaders we don't know what is required, we tend not to pursue the information unless it stimulates our own interest. Is this fair? I think not. We all have our own particular 'Thing', be it canoeing, climbing, mountaineering, swimming, fishing, basket weaving to name but a few.

There are many activities that do not require leaders to attend, and other activities that would welcome help in your chosen field. If you know of an activity that would not normally be attended then I ask you to push the event not just in your section but also all over the District. It may be that we can only raise one team from the whole of the District and we may come last, but last is better than not trying, is it not?

Yes! I Did It!



No! I've Never Done It! I Don't Like It



**Nick Farmer
ADC (Scouts)**

Matrix weekend

I arrived Friday 21 March for the matrix weekend for PLs and was shown to my room in the Warren. I was sharing with John and Ryan from Hitchin Air scouts.

At 8.00 pm we all assembled in the main hall to hear what the weekend had in store for us. Once we were put into our patrols we were given a fun problem to solve, to see how high we could make a tower out of newspaper to hold an egg. Unfortunately the eggs were for breakfast next day, so broken eggs were not an option.

Saturday start was 7:30 am breakfast and activities at 8:30 am. Rifle Shooting, Climbing and Archery after. We then had to design posters to encourage Scouts to attend Green Beret, P.A.W.. and something new called Born 2b Challenged.

After Lunch we had team building sessions, these were brilliant especially the torpedo run.

In the evening the Carrot Road Show came to entertain us after dinner. The disco went on till late with the Leaders joining in as well.

The next morning we had flag break, and then we tidied up our rooms. In our patrols we had to make catapults, and a cart to carry the water bombs. We, of course, won as we were the only ones who managed to get it to fire properly and finish both tasks. It ended as you can guess in a water fight leaders included. It was a great weekend.

Matthew Hart - 12th Letchworth

Thank you

NETWORK

I am just writing to say what a fantastic job BALiNetwork are doing with the Letchworth & Baldock District Gang Show.

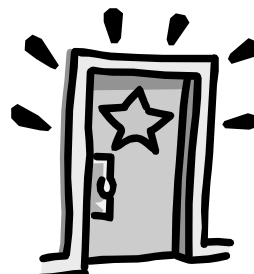
They have organised and run the bar during the interval; together with Beech Springs VSU they are marshalling cars prior to the start of the performance (as there is no parking available on-site at St Francis College); and the Network and Ventures are also helping back-stage shifting scenery. They have all pulled together this week and mucked in whenever and wherever help was needed - we have been at the theatre every night this week sorting out scenery, props and costumes.

They are all a credit to the Scout Movement.

Regards

Andrea Soulsby.

Producer - Letchworth & Baldock District Gang Show.



Gang Show

The average age of this year's young cast is about eleven years old. Eleven Beavers, twenty-one Cubs, twenty-seven Scouts, one Explorer Scout, four Venture Scouts, twenty-nine Brownies, nineteen Guides, seventeen Leaders and/or Fellowship, members.

Congratulations to everyone who took part in this year's Gang Show and many thanks to all those who came along to support us.

Please ensure that all the young people who took part receive the appropriate recognition for all their hard work – they deserve it!!

Andrea Soulsby
Producer – District Gang Show

This is their 38th show in forty eight years.

38 Years

The County held its annual Swimming Competition - Saturday 29 March at Hemel Hempstead.

The District held two trials in order to choose a team to represent the District. After some late substitutions due to the change in date the Cubs set off to Hemel Hempstead to fly the District flag. They came a creditable 5th.

Well done to

Benedict Cartwright	1st Baldock
Iain Gillespie	8th Letchworth
James Hare	7th Letchworth
Joshua Howes	5th Letchworth
Thomas Kelly	4th Letchworth
Vaughan Lewis	4th Letchworth
Kieran Willoughby	1st Baldock
Robert Wright	12th Letchworth

Thank you Anne Gutteridge, CSL 4th Letchworth and Mandy Woolmer CSL 7th Letchworth for organising the trials at Hitchin Swimming Pool. A special thank you to Jackie Hare ABSL 7th Letchworth for taking and looking after the Cubs and to the parents who also helped.

Beech Springs VSU - AGM

Beech Springs VSU Unit held their last AGM before the end of Venture Scouting on 31 December 2003. The following were elected as officers of the committee

Rachel Anderson	- Chairperson
Nichola Smith	- Secretary
Daniel Staines	- Treasurer
Nick Howell	- Quarter Master



**The Twenty First Annual Rotary Club of Letchworth
Garden City 15 mile walk will take place**

Date : Sunday 18 May
Registration Fee: £1.00
Entry Forms from: Peter Jackson
32 South View
Letchworth
SG6 3JJ
Tel: 01462 484413
peterjackson32@btinternet.com

The course is about 13 miles, most of it following the new Greenway, which encircles the Garden City Estate. You do not have to complete the whole course - transport will be available at various checkpoints to take you back to the start at The Highfield School. Walkers under fifteen, must be accompanied by an adult.

HAVE FUN AND RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR GROUP OR CHARITY

Registration Fee of £1.00 per walker is charged to help with administration and refreshments costs.

75% of the money raised will be retained by the walkers for the Group or Charity of their choice.



The Garden City Greenway is approaching its official opening date. Conceived in 1996 as the most appropriate means of celebrating one hundred years of Letchworth Garden City, it opens up the countryside to people of all ages, allowing them to enjoy the open air - the very essence of the Garden City concept.

Although some elements of the Greenway are already complete and open to the public, the official opening will take place between 3 and 5 May 2003. Public celebrations begin at 2 pm on Saturday 3 May with festivities and displays taking place at Radwell Meadows. On Sunday 4 May the pace is slowed down at Radwell Meadows, with planned walks, exploring and picnicking for all the family being the order of the day. On Monday the entertainment switches to Standalone Farm, with folk music, fairground rides and a craft fair amongst the entertainment. Come along, join in the fun and celebrate Letchworth Garden City's very special year.

Prior to the official opening, 2003 will see the installation of bollards, finger posts and information boards, along with additional seating around the entire route and final planting of feature trees and copses. The Garden City Greenway is the Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation's single most substantial investment for the Centenary, with over £1m ploughed into improving access to and the quality of Letchworth's countryside.

Peak Assault

I wondered what was involved as a member of the support crew for Beech Springs VSU. We arrived at the base camp at 1.30 am after a six and a half hour coach trip from Stevenage. We set up the camp and then grabbed some much needed sleep before the competitors were woken, fed, last minute kit check before the full kit inspection at the starting point. I was just about to take the tents down as instructed, when the heavens opened and rain set in for the rest of the day and night. I decided to leave them up because everybody knows that a wet tent takes three times longer to dry. During the day all the Support Staff went sight seeing.

I wish to personally thank the unit for asking me and for their thanks and if I am needed in the future I'd be more than happy to help.

**Chris Lewis
ASL 1st 3rd Letchworth**

Cryptic Football Quiz

Complete the quiz and send it to Rita Hawkins, 1 South Close, Baldock, SG7 6DS.
The person with the most correct answers, or the first out of the hat if there is a tie, will win a football.
The answers are all names of football teams, although a knowledge of football isn't necessary for most of them.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Wild Dogs | 18 Car outside Spanish house |
| 2 Cowboys have them | 19 To put under ground |
| 3 Professor on rollers | 20 Famous President |
| 4 Males meadow | 21 Animal United |
| 5 Dirty Water | 22 Latest fort |
| 6 Push Weight | 23 Famous jockey |
| 7 Males together | 24 Vital organs |
| 8 Steel city day | 25 Smashes things up |
| 9 Always one hundred | 26 Collection of arms |
| 10 Famous for their buns | 27 Organ on small lake |
| 11 Cash Service | 28 Bottom of a ship |
| 12 A prison clock | 29 Not eastern beef |
| 13 Famous football brothers | 30 Greed pig |
| 14 Lock the door | 31 Opposite of dull/off |
| 15 Fill the harbour | 32 1 of 3 R's |
| 16 Ask about ill parent | 33 Harbour with a gorge |
| 17 Brick after cotton factory | 34 A putrid pig |



New PC forms

The Permission to Camp forms for Scouts/Ventures Scout PC(S/VS) have been replaced. The new form is called PC (AD). It is a generic form useable for Scouts, Venture Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Scout Network members. You can download the form free of charge from the following location.

www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdoc/facts/pdfs/pcad.pdf

Thailand Jamboree Videos and DVDs now available

The Jamboree video you have been waiting for is here. It costs £10.00. You can order online at www.sbuk.org.uk/info.centre/catalog.php

The code to use when placing your order is JAMVOID for the Thailand Jamboree Video

Available shortly will be a DVD version of the video. It will contain all the material that is on the videotape but comes with extra celebrity footage that was only previously shown at the Christmas Day party. The code to use when this material is available in a week or so is JAMBODVD.

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

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Phase 1/2 | Stuart Duxbury - ACSL 1 st /3 rd Letchworth |
| | Neil Ward - ESL—Oak Eagles |
| | Katie Thorpe - ABSL 1st 3rd |
| Phase 3 | Wendy Murphy - BSL 5th Letchworth |
| | Katie Thorpe - ABSL 1st 3rd Letchworth |
| | Jackie Hare - ABSL 7th Letchworth |
| Phase 5 | Ann Gutteridge - CSL 4th Letchworth |





Wood Badge

Congratulations to the following

Mrs Lorraine Robson	4th Letchworth SL
Mr David Strong	7th Letchworth SL
Mr Thomas Hill	7th Letchworth BSL
Mr Michael Wheeler	1st Baldock ASL
Mrs Lesley Gwilt	2nd Baldock ASL

All five have completed their Wood Badge Training in the Scout Section.

Well Done



Wardens at Wymondley Wood

1 April	Dave Hawkins	643432
8 April	Elaine Wigglesworth	626218
15 April	Julia & Alistair Pollard	686190
22 April	Barbara Crombie	671062
29 April	Nora Hitcham	627905
6 May	Ann Martin	627439
13 May	Sheila & David Daws	621699
20 May	Bob Williams	686727
27 May	Shirley & David Rossall	431884
3 June	Mick Balls	893855
10 June	Pauline Gimson	677993
17 June	Mark Hill	483422
24 June	Jane Thorn	635745

Congratulations to

Long Service Decorations

15 Years

Mrs Deb Dilley ASL 2nd Baldock

10 Year Service Certificate

Mr Brian Plater ACSL 12th Letchworth

5 year Service Certificate

Janet Bitmead ACSL 12th Letchworth

Gareth Howell DA (Mountaineering)

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service

Congratulations to Ann Martin - CSL 11th Letchworth and Wymondley Wood Committee Member for being awarded the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Services.

Ann joined the 5th Letchworth Scout Group where she helped open up a Beaver Colony. In 2000 she took up a challenge by moving to 11th Letchworth.

At District level Ann is a member of the Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre and she participates as a warden at the centre.

New Programme

To help with interpreting the new programme structure Andrea Soulsby has produced some simple guides for each section. To access the New Programme Support material go to www.herts-scouts.net/index/library or telephone the County Office

020 8236 0040

Fax 020 8236 0045 or

e-mail [admin@herts-](mailto:admin@herts-scouts.net)

[scouts.net](mailto:admin@herts-scouts.net)



2003



2003

APRIL

2	Scout & Guide Shop Meeting	Wymondley Wood	Bob Williams 0162 686727
5	District Beaver Scout Challenge	TBA	Mark Hill 01462 483422
5 - 6	Sixers & Seconders' Weekend	Wymondley Wood	Mandy Woolmer 01462 637718
7	District Beaver Leaders' Meeting	11 Bowershott 8.00 pm	Maggie Miller 01462 632163
10	District Executive	Wymondley Wood	Dave Hawkins 01462 643432
27	St George's Day Parade & Service	St Mary's Church	Bob Hemmings 01462 895366
27	Wymondley Wood Open Day	Wymondley Wood	Barbara Crombie 01462 671062

MAY

2 - 5	County Scout PAW	Tolmers	Andy Lanham 01707 872900
2 - 5	CCCC03	Phasels	Bob Cooper 01438 235969
8	District AGM	Wymondley Wood 8.00 pm	Rita Hawkins 01452 643432
11	District Cub Football Competition	TBA	Dave Hawkins 01462 643432
18	Garden City Walk – Rotary Club		Peter Jackson 01462 484413
21	1st Ashwell AGM	Ashwell Village Hall	Joan Huggins 01462 742454
23 - 26	District Jamboree	Wymondley Wood	Andrea Soulsby 01462 643992
24	Visit from the Chief Scout ,George Purdy	Wymondley Wood	

June

4	5th Letchworth AGM	5th Letchworth H.Q	Graham Dollman 01462 683769
7	County Cub Football Competition	Stevenage	Dave Hawkins 01462 643432
12	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood	Dave Hawkins 01462 643432
17	District Team Meeting	Wymondley Wood	Rita Hawkins 01462 643432
19	8th Letchworth AGM	8th Letchworth HQ	Sheila Tickner sheila.edmond@tiscali.co.uk
28/29	25/40 Mile Walk	Greensand Ridge Walk	Bob Williams 01462 686727

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