



December 2003 No: 499



Co-ordinator

Peace
On
Earth



ONE WORLD ONE PROMISE

I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year . It has been a busy year in Letchworth and Baldock and you all should be congratulated on a job well done, delivering an Imaginative and balanced programme to our young people, at weekly meetings, District and County events.

So a big thank you to all our Leaders /Helpers, parents and young people who help make the District one big happy family in Scouting.

Once again have a great Christmas, enjoy the break as we can look forward to an exciting and busy 2004.

Dave Hawkins DC

Farewell to Venture Scouting



The end of December sees the formal end of Venture Scouts in the UK. Over the past thirty plus years members of the section have pursued an adventurous programme, travelled all over the world and made countless friends.

Our Venture Units, Beech Springs, Bacchus and Champion Hills have been a source of leaders and helpers for groups within the District . We thank them for all the help they have given to the District over the years and look forward to their members moving on to the Scout Network or the Scout Fellowship. To those who have decided to take other paths thank you for all your efforts and the best of luck for the future.

Award Presentations

We look forward to the company of Roger Sands our County Commissioner, who will be presenting the following awards:-

Rachel Anderson	Queen's Scout Award
Andrea Soulsby	Bar to the Medal of Merit
Eric Woodward	Bar to the Medal of Merit

Everybody is welcome to come along to 1st Baldock Headquarters on Wednesday 10 December at 7.30 for 7.45.

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin



Nights Away

The Nights Away Permit Scheme was launched in June 2003, with the aim of making quality residential experiences more accessible for young people by equipping adults with the necessary skills. Launch packs were sent to District Commissioners in early June. The key concept of the scheme is that any adult wishing to lead a residential experience for young people will require a permit.

To gain a Permit adults should satisfy eight core skills. These can be assessed practically or through prior learning and experience. Once an adult has gained a Permit, they are free to organise residential experiences for young people.

The End of an Era or A New Beginning ??

A cold and very wet weekend in November at Well End saw the very last Phase 5 residential course.

The weekend was a balanced mixture of several group and individual activities to gain knowledge and skills, meeting leaders from other Districts and share experiences and ideas.

The course organisers had recorded the Rugby, with the plan that the first half could be watched at lunch time and then the remainder of the match immediately prior to dinner this wasn't a problem at lunchtime and all the rugby fans were looking forward to seeing the end of the match, until the TV and video were 'accidentally' locked away. Unfortunately with the aid of the mobile phones it wasn't long before most of us knew the result – I believe that only 'Bubble' managed to evade the spectacular final outcome.

Before dinner each of the four tutor groups had to decorate their table (we had been given prior notice of the theme) there was Treasure Island – Little Mermaid – Alice in Wonderland – Snow White

My group were Snow White, there were only six of us, so our Tutor Barbara Charlish kindly became the seventh Dwarf, but who was going to be Snow White- never fear when there is a County Commissioner near. Roger Sands was a guest at our table and was un-unnervingly keen to dress up including wearing the stuffed bra on the outside of the costume!

Dinner was a great success and after the customary speeches and formalities of evening we had a quiz. Each tutor group had prepared two sets of questions but many of the thoughts remained with the rugby and it wasn't long before the TV and video magically appeared and after a hive of activity around the room, the evening for many of us came to an end. Apparently the rugby fans managed to get to bed around 1.30 am.

After a hearty cooked breakfast, we started Sunday with 'Scouts Own', each tutor group had been nominated for a specific task on the theme of 'A new Beginning'

Things were much quieter on Sunday. We had to perform tasks on 'craft' and had a session on the new nights away permit. A welcome chicken lunch and a hasty clean up and it was off home to recover.

Why are Scout Leaders always so keen to dress in drag??

Simon and Apryl
Goodwin
4th Letchworth



Extract from a letter sent to Bob Williams

“ You said you were interested in my family’s connection with the Scouting organisation so here briefly - I took on 3rd Letchworth Cub Pack in 1942 when my brother, Oliver Fuller was called up during the war.

In the 1920’s my husband Ray Wilsher joined 1st Baldock Cubs, was a Scout and Rover Scout. He became treasurer for the Troop when our boys Rob and Colin joined Cubs then Scouts. Now Robs son Nick after being a Beaver and Cub Scout joined 4th Allerton Sea Scouts in Liverpool and is now joining Explorer Scouts.

I was a Girl Guide and my four granddaughters were Brownies and Guiders - so the interest continues.”

Sincerely
Peggy Wilsher.

A BIG THANK YOU

A BIG vote of thanks goes to Chris King (DESC) and his team of Leaders and Helpers for their enterprise in setting up our new Explorer Scout Unit.

Seventeen Explorer Scouts were invested on the sea front at Great Yarmouth on Saturday 29 November 2003 bringing the total membership to over thirty.

Already the Unit has spent a week camping in the New Forest, helped by running bases at Green Beret as well as helping local Scout Groups with their activities.

Thanks to all Scout Leaders in the District who have encouraged their Scouts to move on to the Unit.

The Unit meets alternate Wednesday and Friday at 1st Baldock HQ and 8th Letchworth HQ.

For more information contact Sue King
District Explorer Scout Administrator on
01462 637901

RAMBLINGS OF A SCOUT LEADER

Just a note to tell you that 1st 3rd are visiting Lister Radio tomorrow. This is the evening where we go out into the wards and collect requests from the patients. We have four adults accompanying them. I have spoken at length to Phil Ross of Lister Radio and have spoken at length with Janice Hall of the Lister CVS.

I am a little concerned that Phil Ross is so laid back about the whole thing. Lister Hospital is expecting us....but we are generally going to be winging the evening, little is prepared in detail. You can be assured that I will organise and run the evening in a disciplined and controlled manner.

We have the District Mini-bus booked, Roger Comley is driving and we are leaving 1st 3rd at 7pm and will be leaving the Radio station at about 9pm when it goes off the air.

I have had an e-mail from Ian Hunt saying his Troop are interested in following 1/3rd on..... and so I keep hold of the tigers tail.....

Dave Strong

OUT AND ABOUT IN THE DISTRICT

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 7th Letchworth | Wymondley Wood Camp
Fire, 5 November |
| 8th Letchworth | Boyd Field - Fireworks and
Hot Dogs, 6 November |
| District | Wymondley Wood Centre
Camp Fire, 7 November |
| Remembrance | Day Parade and Service
9 November |
| District Cub Quiz | 14 November |
| 1st 3rd Letchworth | Bag Pack at Morrison's
15 November |
| Oak Eagles Explorer Scout Unit | Great Yarmouth Weekend
28 / 30 November |
| 5th Letchworth | Christmas Bazaar
30 November |
| 1st Baldock | Christmas Fete
30 November |

Please send us information about your events.



GREEN BERET

Well done to 5th Letchworth, 7th Letchworth and 8th Letchworth Scout Troops who achieved the following scores and positions in the County Green Beret Competition. One hundred and eleven teams took part. Congratulation to 1st Tring "D" team for winning the competition for the third year running.

Final Position	Team	Activity Score/Position	Base Score/Position	Assault Score/Position	Course Score/Position	Night Score/Position	Exercise Score/Position	Orienteering Score/Position	Total Pos
42	7th Let	195	71	250	74	217	16	9	170
80	8th Let	171	89	262	58	108	87	43	277
85	5th Let	167	92	239	79	176	49	74	291

While the Scouts were busy taking part our own Explorer Scout Unit—Oak Eagles ran two bases. They arrived at 8.00 am the Saturday morning to set up their two bases and continued late into the evening .

1st 3rd Letchworth Scout Group - Fund Raising

On the 15 November 1st 3rd Letchworth Scout Group raised over £580 at a recent bag-pack at Morrisons. Due to a cancellation 1st 3rd Scout Group were asked to step in at short notice. With only a week to go, letters were handed to the young people and also taken round and put through letter boxes. The money raised will be put towards their building fund.



WELL DONE

District Website

A meeting was held on 18 November to discuss and demonstrate the proposed District Website.

The Next Step

We are looking for three or four people to join the steering committee to help get the site up and running. If you are interested in helping then please contact either Gareth Howell 01462 677090 or Dave Hawkins 01462 643432

Hertfordshire Training Dates

Details of the new Adult Training Scheme, due to start in January 2004, can be found in HSG – last month's edition explained what you need to do if you have already done some of your training. This month's issue details the date/venues for modules that are being run by the County during 2004.

We are still in need of people to become Training Advisors – basically you would advise leaders on their training needs, formulate their personal learning plan, meet with them at regular intervals, validate their training tasks and then recommend the award of their Wood Badge. You would be asked to guide up to four adults through their leader training. If this appeals to you, then please let Dave Hawkins know as soon as possible. You will need to attend Module 25 (Assessing Learning) in order to become a Training Advisor.

Thank You

Anne and Ken Lilley would like to thank everybody who sent get well cards, their wishes and also their support while Ken was in hospital.

Ken is now home and making a speedy recovery.

BADGES on Uniforms

If you are unsure of where any Badges should be placed on the uniform, then please refer to the diagrams that can be found in the Scout Essentials Folder. They can also be found on the Scoutbase website. These diagrams are very clear as to which badge goes where. Why not photocopy it and put it on the notice board in your Scout HQ or even give every child their own copy? Get a few parents to help one meeting and have a sewing evening, where everyone checks their uniform and moves their badges to the correct places! Cubs could even have this passed as one part of the Home Help badge. But just in case you can't get a copy of this diagram, please find one below.



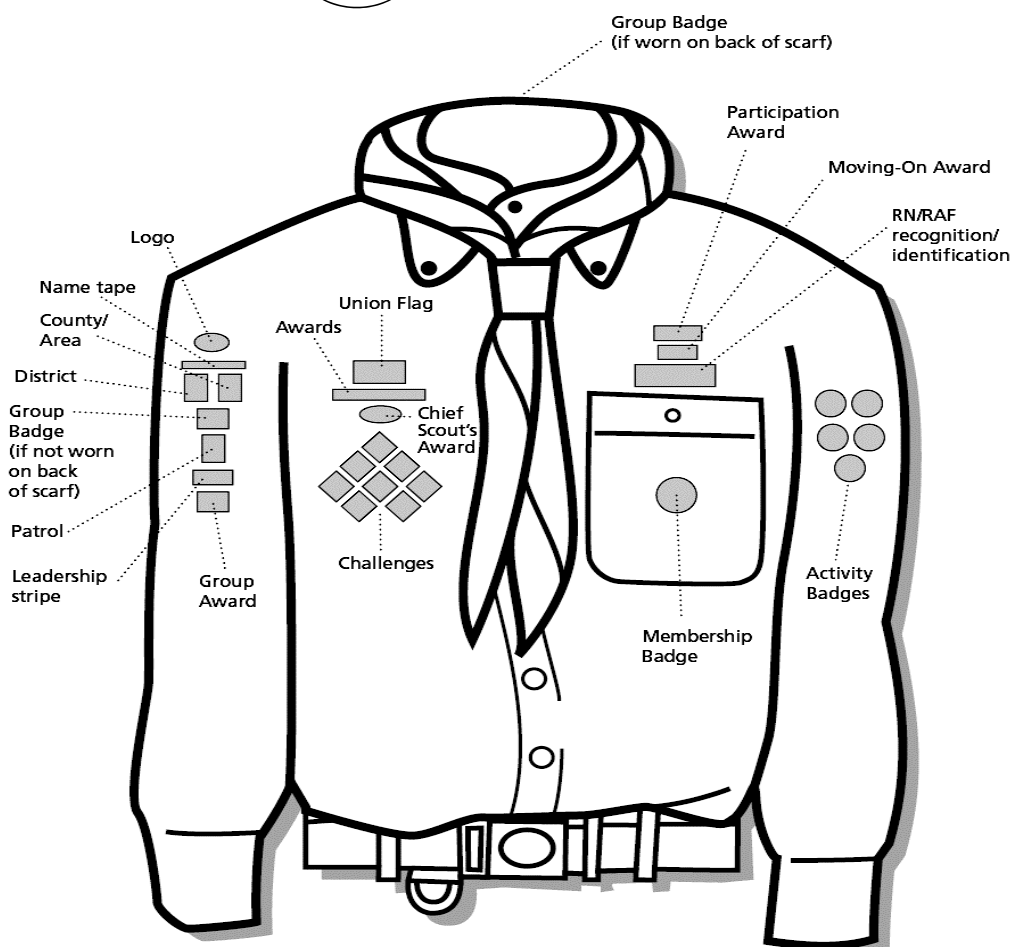
Queen's Golden Jubilee Badge – This should no longer be worn, it should have been taken off your uniform at the end of 2002!!!)

Thailand Jamboree Badge – This should no longer be worn on your uniform.

District Gang Show Badge – please note the following guidelines:-

“The Gang Show Badge can be worn on the uniform by all those who are currently taking part in the Gang Show and for up to 6 months after the show. If anyone is not intending to take part in the next show, when rehearsals recommence, then the Gang Show badge must be removed from their uniform. Only current Gang Show members may continue to wear the badge. New cast members will be given the badge to wear shortly before the show.”

Group Anniversary Badge – This may be worn on the uniform for the year of the anniversary only.

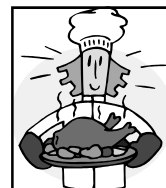




The Everlasting Turkey



On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me:
"I've bought a big fresh turkey and a proper Christmas tree"
On the second day of Christmas much laughter could be heard.
As we tucked into our turkey - a most delicious bird.
On the third day of Christmas came the people from next door
The turkey tasted just as good as it had done before.
On the fourth day of Christmas came relations, young and old.
We finished up the Christmas pud and had the turkey cold.
On the fifth day of Christmas - outside the snowflakes scurried.
But we were nice and warm inside - we had turkey curried.
On the sixth day of Christmas, the Christmas spirit died.
The children fought and bickered - we had turkey rissoles fried.
On the seventh day of Christmas my true love did not wince.
When we sat down at the table and was offered turkey mince.
On the eighth day of Christmas the dog had run for shelter.
He'd seen our turkey pancakes and the glass of Alka Seltzer.
On the ninth day of Christmas, by lunch Dad was blotto.
He knew that bird was back again, this time as risotto.
On the tenth day of Christmas we were drinking home-made brew.
As if that wasn't bad enough, we were eating turkey stew.
On the eleventh day of Christmas, the Christmas tree was moulting.
With chilli, soy and oyster sauce, the turkey was revolting.
On the twelfth day of Christmas we had smiles upon our lips.
The guests had gone, the turkey too - we dined on fish and chips.



District Cub Scout Quiz Friday 14 November 2003

It was good to see eight out of twelve Packs take part in our annual Quiz night, held at 5th Letchworth Headquarters.

After some interesting questions on sport, history, general knowledge and Scouting, the scoring was very close.

The Quiz was won by 1st 3rd Letchworth with 78 points closely followed by 12th Letchworth with 77.5 points.

Thank you to 2nd Baldock for setting the questions and all the Leaders, Helpers and Cubs for giving up their time.

Amanda Woolmer
ADC (Cubs)

Full Results

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. 1st 3rd Letchworth | 5. 7th Letchworth |
| 2. 12th Letchworth | 6. 2nd Baldock |
| 3. 8th Letchworth | 7. 1st Baldock (Knights) |
| 4. 4th Letchworth | 8. 5th Letchworth |

Remembrance Sunday

The Annual Remembrance Day Parade took place on 9 November at the War Memorial, Station Road, Letchworth.

A number of Groups from the District took part and all ages of the Scouting Movement were represented, from Beavers to the Scout Fellowship.

The District wreath was laid by a member of Beech Springs VSU and a member of the Explorer Scout Unit - Oak Eagles.

After a short service a number of the Groups made their way to St Michael's Church for the main service of Remembrance.

I would like to thank all those who turned out to remember the fallen.

Dave Hawkins

Congratulations to the following Leaders who have completed Training:-

Phase 3

Steven Woolmer 7th Letchworth Cubs

Phase 4 (Beavers)

Katie Thorpe 1st/3rd Letchworth Beavers

Phase 4 (Scouts)

Steven Woolmer 7th Letchworth Cubs

Phase 5

Paula Jordan 1st/3rd Letchworth Beavers

Katie Thorpe 1st/3rd Letchworth Beavers

Brian Plater 12th Letchworth Cubs

Steven Woolmer 7th Letchworth Cubs

Apryl Goodwin 4th Letchworth Cubs

Simon Goodwin 4th Letchworth Scouts

Tony Freeman 4th Letchworth Scouts

Module 25 "Assessing Learning" (Validation completed)

Andrea Soulsby ADC (AT)

GCA Training Unit 5 Working with People

Chris King – DESC



Wardens at Wymondley Wood

2 Dec Ann Martin 627439

9 Dec Mark Hill 483422

Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre

Telephone Number:
01462 677926



MERRY CHRISTMAS

FIRST AID Training

Would you like to undertake a standard Adult First Aid course?

Well, we are running one at 1st Baldock Scout HQ on Thursday evenings starting in January. The course lasts for 10 weeks and you must be able to attend all the sessions. The certificate you will receive upon successful completion of the course is valid for three years.

The details are :-

Venue 1st Baldock Scout HQ
Start Date Thursday 8th January 2004
Duration 10 weeks
Time 7:30 pm until 9:30 pm
Cost £50 per head

To book a place please send a cheque (payable to "Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council") for £50 to Andrea Soulsby – 32 The Rowans, Baldock, Herts. SG7 6HL

Welcome to



Paul Heath - ACSL 8th Letchworth

Simon Wilson - CSL 5th Letchworth

Carolyn Nunnington - ABSL 7th Letchworth

Dawn Wylie - ABSL 1st Baldock

Change of warrant

Jackie Hare - ASL 7th Letchworth

Mark Hill - SL 7th Letchworth

2003



2004

December

1	Lochearnhead Meeting	8th Letchworth HQ	Nick Farmer 01462 627673
4	Beech Springs AGM	1st Baldock HQ	Rachel Anderson
11	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood	Rita Hawkins 01452 643432
11	Scout Shop closes		Nora Hitcham
10	Queen's Scout Presentation	1st Baldock HQ	Beech Springs VSU
12	11th Letchworth Coffee and Mince Pies	38 Chiltern View	Ann Martin 01462 627439
13	District Fellowship Xmas get together	Clulow Room, St George's Church	Margaret Durrant 01462 624731
16	District Team Meeting	The Orange Tree Baldock	Dave Hawkins 01462 643432

January 2004

6	District Lochearnhead Meeting	8th Letchworth HQ	Nick Farmer 01462 627673
7	Scout Fellowship trip	Harpenden Gang Show	Sue Lovelock 01462 672043
8	Full First Aid Course	1st Baldock HQ	Andrea Soulsby 01462 643992
8	First of ten sessions		Nora Hitcham 01462 627905
8	Scout Shop Re-Opens		Rita Hawkins 01462 643432
8	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood	Barbara Crombie 01462 671062
12	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood	Nick Farmer 01462 627673
19	District Scout Leaders' Meeting	8th Letchworth HQ	Maggie Miller 01462 632163
19	District Beaver Leaders' Meeting	11 Bowershott	Bob Williams 01462 686726
20	District Fund Raising Meeting	Wymondley Wood	Lesley Gwilt 01462 790019
25	District Scout Cooking Competition	1st Baldock HQ	Dave Hawkins 01462 643432
26	GSLs' Meeting	8th Letchworth HQ	

February

9	Information evening for parents Lochearnhead Expedition 2005 01462 627673	8th Letchworth HQ	Nick Farmer
12	District Executive Meeting Rita Hawkins	Wymondley Wood	
13	District Fellowship New Year Meal	The Broadway Hotel	

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