



Co-ordinator

Gang Show

23 October 2004

Tonight was our first rehearsal for GangShow 2005.. but hey! it did seem like only yesterday that we had 84 cast on stage at St Francis. How can it have been over six months since our last GangShow rehearsal?

There has, for a few of us, been little break between these months.. Mike Miles and I have been working constantly on the music since April and have together produced the music for this 2005 Show. We have had committee meetings, lots of conversations and as a team we have put the Show together...A new Show. No Lorraine, no Chris, no Andrea...

So scary!!

So many things could go wrong, so many unknowns...

But keys and songsheets, refreshments and CD's and people all fell into place.

And it went well. I had 31 Cubs and Brownies and 22 Scouts and Guides turn up for our first rehearsal. Quite a satisfactory turnout for half term. And with phone call apologies received and camps and holidays I think we can expect a cast of nearly 100 this year. If I can keep them interested.

My strange mix of 47 songs and 9 sketches were accepted without complaint. But doing fifties and sixties songs when you know all the words already and admitting to the kids that their grandparents would also know them is a bit sobering... are we really that old?

And new faces. We had a few. Not that I would mention. But I loved the first time we sang Memories and Crest of a Wave with these new ones. Eyes wide, mouths open, not knowing what was going on. With three-quarters of those present used to it all, knowing all the words, there they were, trying to clap at the right time, and copy the right movements for Memories, and have their arms folded... do 'the sun is in the sky, all our eyes on the distant horizons'... they had not a clue what was going on... nonplussed...like they had been transported to a different world where everybody knows what to do but them. It was a joy. And how I laughed. And then explained to them why I laughed. These are the moments; when you take the innocent and explain and help them to grow. That is what it is all about.

Dave Strong - Producer

Peak Assault

Congratulations to Oak Eagle Explorer Scouts who came twelfth in this years Peak Assault Competition held at Bleaklow in the Peak District.

Inside this issue:

Watford v Gillingham	2
Hertfordshire Appointment	2
New from Wales	2
Cub Cylco Cross	3
Mini Bus	3
Beaver Sports Day	3
Diary Dates	4
Competition	

Special points of interest:

- ♦ *News from Wales*
- ♦ *Cub Cylco Cross*
- ♦ *Mini Bus*
- ♦ *Beaver Sports Day*
- ♦ *Competition*



WATFORD FC v GILLINGHAM

The Scout and Guide Football Day for 2005 will be Saturday 5 February 2005.

The exact financial details are still to be confirmed by Watford FC and, therefore, the leaflets for ticket applications are not yet available. However, County wanted you to have the date as soon as possible.

Leaflets with details of the arrangements - time, cost etc will be distributed as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, please put the date in your diary. Come on the Hornets

HAPPENINGS AROUND

1 - 3 October - Wymondley Wood

4th Letchworth Scout Group

2 October - Wymondley Wood

District Beaver Sports Day

2 - 3 October - Wymondley Wood

5th Letchworth Cub Camp

3 October - Duxford

District Cub Day Out

10 October - Well End

County Cub Cylco Cross - 7th Letchworth Cubs and 1st Baldock (Templars)

THE DISTRICT

13 October - Wymondley Wood

Scout & Guide Shop AGM

15 - 17 October - Bleaklow

Oak Eagle ESU

22 - 24 October - Harmer Green

5th Letchworth Scouts

7th Letchworth Scouts

23 - 25 October—Wrayfield Farm

2nd Baldock Scouts

30 October - 8th Letchworth HQ

District Race Night

Hertfordshire Activity Centres - an Appointment

You will all be aware of the recent HQ review of activity centres and subsequent potential effect on Phasels Wood and Tolmers. As you know, it is our firm intention to continue to manage these sites for the benefit of young people and to provide and expand the range of excellent activities for them.

Over the last few months a lot of work has been done to value the sites and consider the options

available to us. There is much still to do, particularly if we are to consider the freehold purchase for Hertfordshire Scouts.

In view of this, I have asked Roger Sands to lead a team who will gather together all the information and consider the options available to us. His team will present these options to the Executive Committee, who will make an informed decision.

I have also asked Roger to look at producing a corporate identity for Hertfordshire Scouting. This will be based around Scouting's national logo and then applied to a branding of all our County activities, HSG, and our Activity Centres.

**Ivor Thomas
County Commissioner.**

News from Wales

Have had my first disaster with training here in Mid Glamorgan – had to cancel the planned Nights Away course because only three people had bothered to book onto it! However, I will not despair or give in to the apathy that seems to abound, I will just log it as a minor flaw and continue forward in trying to climb the training mountain, upon which I do think I have now got a fairly good foothold!

Our garden seems to be flourishing despite the wind and rain (and there's a lot of that here) but we'll have to wait until the Spring to see if our lack of gardening experience has had any major effect! Tegan started full-time school in September and is loving it. Megan never seems to be at school with all the trips she has been on – Theatre trip, Techniquet, Cardiff Bay, The Big Pit to name but a few. Robert is enjoying his hobby of Karate and recently gained his orange belt and has also just started Judo –

just hope he doesn't decide to start practising at home.

I love reading about everyone each month in Co-Ordinator and often look at the District website. I am trying to improve the communication issue here and in September sent out a four-page Training Newsletter – next issue due out in January. Now just need to combine it with some other Area news and we might start to crack the problem.

Bye for now - Andrea

Scout Camp

Scouts from a certain Group who will remain nameless where asked to provide a kit list. Here's what one of them wrote.

1. Caravan
2. A Loo
3. A gun 4 emergencies
4. Shower gel
5. A rabbit to trim the grass
6. Pepper spray
7. A butler called Chesny
8. A pony
9. Espresso machine
10. Bacon rind
11. A 10p piece

12. A helmet and body armour in case of war.

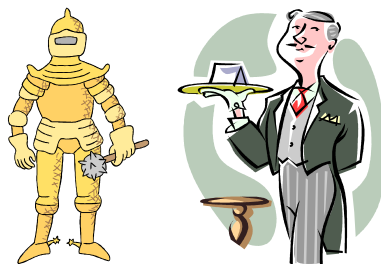
13. Spare shoes in case I forget

14. A light sabre in case of Jedi

15. A paper shredder

Comment from Scout Leader

"Do again sensibly".

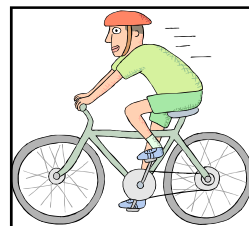


County Cub Cylco Cross

Fifteen teams from the County took part in this years competition at Well End on Sunday 10 October.

The District was represented by 1st Baldock (Templars) and 7th Letchworth Cub Packs. This was 7th Letchworth's first outing in the competition and they did extremely well coming second losing to the winners, Potters Bars by only 45 seconds.

Well Done



District Minibus

The Management of the Mini--bus has been taken over by Peter Woolmer with immediate effect.

You can contact him at
51 Lawrence Avenue
Letchworth Garden City
SG6 2EY

Tele: 01462 637718

E_mail p.woolmer@ntlworld.com



Fund Raising

All future District fund raising will be in aid of a new Mini bus. The District is hoping to purchase a new mini bus in time for the District Expedition to Lochearnhead.

To date we have £2000



Beaver Sports Day

Forty Beavers met up at Wymondley Wood to take part in this year's Beaver Sports Day. They came from seven Colonies, determined to do battle come rain (a bit) sun (a little) or wind (of which there was plenty). Competition was close, with several teams leadings during the course of the afternoon.

Overall winners were 1st 3rd Letchworth & 8th Letchworth joint team.



Many thanks go to all the Leaders and Explorers Scouts for organising the events and helping on the day. Special thank you go to 4th Letchworth Scouts who forfeited their afternoon hike at camp to step into the roles of refreshment providers and raffle sellers at the last minute. They did a fantastic job and remained cheerful at all times, a real case of 'being prepared'.

Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council

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Diary Dates 2004

November

5	District Fireworks & Bonfire	Wymondley Wood
6-7	District Scout Nightjar Competition	
7	Wymondley Wood Open Day	
7	District Fellowship River Trip	
11	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
14	Remembrance Sunday	
16	District Scout Leaders Meeting	5th Letchworth HQ
19 - 20	Green Beret	Tolmers

December

8	District Team Meeting	The Orange Tree
9	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
11	Fellowship Evening	

January 2005

10	District Beaver Leaders' Meeting	8th Letchworth HQ
13	District Executive	Wymondley Wood
23	District Scout Cooking Competition	



Competition—Fire Safety Poster

Chubb Fire, sponsor of the Scout Fire Safety Badge, are offering all Scout Groups the chance to win money to put towards a Group activity involving a water theme in 2005.

The competition is to design a poster that details the five top fire prevention tips for the home. This poster should include both text and graphics, and be produced by the Scout Group as a whole (not individually). For some help, look at the resource for this badge on the sponsorship section of www.scoutbase.org.uk.

The prizes are as follows:

1st £500

2nd £300

3rd £200



All prize money should be used to provide the Scout Group with equipment or an activity around a water theme. This could range from the purchase of a canoe or some lifejackets, to a day out at a water park or sailing on a local lake.

Entries should be sent to **The Corporate Relations Department, The Scout Association, Gilwell Park, Chingford, London, E4 7QW.**

Remember to include the Scout Group name, the Scout Leader's name and full postal address along with contact telephone numbers.

The closing date for entries is **Friday 3rd December 2004**. Entries will only be returned if they are accompanied by an S.A.E.

Remembrance Day

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead, Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae

