



CO - O R D I N A T O R

Gang Show

APRIL 2007 ISSUE 536

"Bright songs, sad songs, broad comedy and sentiment. Yet whatever the mood of entertainment, members of Letchworth and Baldock Boy Scouts' Associations wended their skilful way through the programme to make a complete success of their third annual 'Gang Show', which opened at Baldock Secondary Modern School last week and is to be presented tonight and tomorrow at St Francis' Theatre in Letchworth"

That was how the 'Pictorial' report began in April 1957. 'The Citizen' review said 'For two and a half hours the 69 members of the cast burlesque almost everything, and on Friday and Saturday at Baldock large audiences rocked with laughter for most of that time.

Fifty years ago, it was the first time the show had moved into either the Baldock school or St Francis' Theatre. In 1955 and 1956 it had been a smaller affair in the old Co-op Hall in Eastcheap, entitled simply 'Our Show', which I missed, knowing nothing at all about Scouting. Having learned a bit since then, and having seen most of the succeeding Gangs Shows, I was given a free seat this year, on condition that I wrote a piece for Co-Ordinator. So what can I say?



It was the opening night, when you can't expect complete perfection; but the cheers and whistles of the audience proved that the old magic is still there. For myself, the shivers of delight came in the second half, as the 'Rainbow' sequences resolved into a brilliant panorama, the all-too-short 'Boogie' touched professional heights, and the final simply hammered the whole audience and cast together with excitement. That noise was wonderful.

Some of the earlier noises didn't seem so good, however. It was just the same fifty years ago. Younger performers need to be trained to speak loud and clear, and not rely on microphones to magnify their mumbles. That was what spoiled the 'Doctor Who' scene, which looked terrific with those lighting effects, but could not be heard. And for a short front-curtain sketch to be allowed to read their words (and still not heard!) is really unforgivable.

Altogether, though the 1957 'Pictorial' headline still applied. It said **'GANG SHOW' WAS GREAT FUN** K.J

This is a newly created post within the Letchworth and Baldock District. Reporting to the District Commissioner you will be responsible for overseeing the running of the District Scout Network.

Are you self motivated, can you motivate others, do you want to take up this exciting challenge?

If you are interested please contact Dave Hawkins, 1 South Close, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 6DS, 01462 643432 dc@lbdscouts.org.uk



Module 10 - First Response

Congratulations to the following Leaders who attended a module 10 course and successfully gained their First Aid Certificate in March:



Janet Bitmead, 12th Letchworth Quartermaster, Andrea Gore, 12th Letchworth ACSL, Steve Hardman 12th Letchworth CSL, Paula Jordan 11th Letchworth BSL, Christopher King DESC, Sue King, DESA, Mark Wilkins 1st Ashwell SL, Neil Ward, ESL, Steven Woolmer, Scout Network Chairman.



County Cub Swimming Gala St Albans

Congratulations to Letchworth and Baldock Cub Scouts 2nd Place in the Hertfordshire County Cub Scouts Swimming Gala

After extensive swimming trials with 31 Cubs from 9 different packs a team of 10 brilliant swimmers took their place in the Hertfordshire Swimming Gala in March. We have always had a lot of support from the Cub section but up until today never had the success the Cubs deserved.

The team of Matthew Banks(8th), James Burgess(8th), Riley Smith(4th), Richard Thomson(12th), James Thomson(12th), Matthew McPherson(12th), Alex Hawkins(12th), Nicholas Brewer(1st B Templar) Adam Lunnon(1st B Templar) and Harry Goddard(1st B Knights) were very nervous at first but as their successes grew so did their confidence.

Out of seven finals we were in five with Matthew McPherson winning first place in both his heat and final being two seconds faster than anyone else in both races. Richard and James Thomson easily got through to their final gaining 10 points between them and Alex Hawkins after a bad start in the final powered through the opposition to win second place in the backstroke. Then our relay team excelled themselves and were awarded 3rd place in the final. I knew the team had achieved a higher place than we had achieved in years but the tension was enormous as the results and awards were handed out.

When it was announced that we had achieved 2nd place out of 11 teams the team were ecstatic and went up to collect their certificate with pride.

The star of the evening, however, was Darren Greener, Akela of 8th Letchworth, who swam in the Leaders race. One of only five groups who were willing to put their reputation on the line and show the Cubs how it should or shouldn't be done. Thank you to Darren for his invaluable help and congratulations to this amazing team of Cubs.

District Cub Football Tournament **Knights Templar Sports Centre**

A wonderful afternoon was had by everyone who attended this year's football tournament at Knights Templar Sports Centre. All five teams were excited and very keen to get started. The tournament was played as a round robin with the winning team being the team with the most points. Ten matches were played in total, with excellent play from all the boys and girls.

The winning team with 13 points and 16 Goals was 12th Letchworth with 7th Letchworth very close runners up with 13 points and 9 goals.

Well done to everyone who played.

Thank you to Ben and Mark Whitaker for refereeing the matches.

Amanda Woolmer - ADC Cubs



12th Letchworth Cub Scouts - winners of the
District Cub Football Tournament

1st Baldock (Knights) Cub Camp at Cottered Guide Centre

On Saturday 24 February 2007 the 1st Baldock (Knights) Cub pack went to Cottered Guide Centre for a weekend of fun and camping. All of the cubs made the short journey to Cottered in our parents' cars and arrived during the morning.

Our first task was to set up the activities we were going to do over the weekend. I helped to set up the dancing raisins and the yogurt making.

The weather over the weekend was a mixture of rain and sun so it didn't stop us doing any of our activities. All of the boys slept on mattresses in the main hall and the girls slept on mattresses in the lounge.

We made compasses, fires and for our camp fire we got all of our torches and built a torch camp fire inside the lounge. We did build a fire outside but it had already burnt out by the time we were



all ready to sit down at nine o'clock on Saturday night.

We watched lots of experiments including dancing raisins and making our own yogurt.

From the weekend we learned how to build a fire and we all enjoyed it but we think the leaders were tired!

Robert Coldrey

1st Baldock Cub

1st Baldock (Knights) Cub Pack Explorers Camp

On the 24 February, I set off with my son to prepare for the Knights first camp of this Centenary year at Cottered Girl Guide Centre. This was my first camp as a Cub Leader and I just hoped my sense of humour would stay with me!!!

Akela (Fiona Potts) and I had planned an explorers camp and the programme contained many experiments; making a coin battery, making yogurt and tasting it, dissolving and reclaiming salt and sugar from water to name but a few.

The weather, although showery, did not stop our explorers getting outside to do just that – explore. We were able to set a trail, go pond dipping, get a camp fire burning well enough to toast marshmallows and cook bananas...and best of all find some nice big muddy puddles to jump in....I'm not sure who enjoyed that bit the most the Cubs, Helpers or Leaders.

All the Cubs helped with the preparation of the evening meal by the peeling the vegetables, preparing the apples for the apple crumble, making the crumble top and making scones – I bet their mums would be amazed....they even did the washing up!!

An indoor campfire saw the end of the day and took me back to when I was a Girl Guide singing all the good old favourites – good to know some things never change...

Sunday saw the children going back home happy, tired and a little dirty... and me, well, yes, my sense of humour did stay with me and after having a good sleep I'm now looking forward to the next one in May.

Raksha (Irene Coldrey)

ACSL 1st Baldock (Knights)



Across the District

Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs and Scout Troops were raising money for Red Nose Day. 12th Letchworth Beavers held a wear something red evening. They also decorated cakes and biscuits. 2nd Baldock Cubs held a 'cardboard sleepover' and the



Scouts did a bag pack. These are only a few of the events that I have heard about. Please let me know what your Group did and if you have a photograph I would like to publish it. Remember the challenge is to do 100 good turns during our Centenary Year.



Congratulations to 8th Letchworth Scout Group on winning the District Scout Quiz held on Rose Nose Day (Friday 16 March 2007).



Scout and Guide Shop closed for Easter



The District Scout and Guide shop will be closed for the Easter Break for 27 March and will reopen on 17 April 2007 at 6.00 pm.

District Scout Quiz

2nd Baldock HQ

Four teams took part in the District Scout Quiz held at 2nd Baldock HQ. The Scouts answered questions ranging from Scouting skills, (identifying knots), local knowledge, international flags, sport and spelling, i.e. Lochearnhead. The competition was intense and the result was in doubt up until the very last round when 8th Letchworth sneaked ahead and won the competition by one point from a team from 2nd Baldock.

Thank you to 2nd Baldock for hosting the evening and setting the questions. I look forward to next year's when 8th Letchworth will have the privilege of setting the questions.

Well done to all the Scouts who took part they just need to brush up on their local knowledge.

Dave Hawkins DC

County Commissioner Ivor Thomas with the newest recruit to the Letchworth and Baldock District Leader Team. Derek the Dalek made a surprise entrance at the District Gang Show

Welcome to

Barry Dickinson

CSL - 5th Letchworth

Rotary Club of Letchworth Garden City -The Garden City Charity Walk

Sunday 20 May 2007



ROTARY CLUB OF LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY

(Registered Charity No. 1041800)

WALK INFORMATION

Sponsored by:



- STARTING POINT:** The Highfield School, Letchworth Garden City. There is ample parking.
- DEPARTURE TIME:** Register and begin your walk at any time between 08.30 and 10.30a.m.
- FINISH TIME:** You should plan to finish by 4:00p.m. This means that walking briskly you need to clear Checkpoint 1 by 11.45a.m. at the latest; Checkpoint 2 by 1:00p.m; Checkpoint 3 by 2:00p.m; and Checkpoint 4 by 2:45
- SWEEPER:** The sweeper walker will start at 11:30a.m. Any straggler that is overtaken must drop out at the next Checkpoint and take the transport back to The Highfield School.
- REGISTRATION:** **YOU MUST BRING YOUR SPONSOR CARD.** Please ensure that it shows clearly the total amount you expect to collect from your sponsors. Look for the registration desk for your numbered sponsor card. There you will be given your **Walker's Check Card**, map and a written commentary.
- CLOTHING:** We hope for a fine day - but just in case - bring warm and waterproof clothing and whatever the weather, wear either walking boots or heavy duty trainers.
- FOOD AND DRINK:** Bring your own picnic. Drinks will be available at Checkpoints 2 & 4 and at the finish. Crisps and sweets will also be available but it will help if you bring small change. There are toilets at these Checkpoints.
- ON THE WALK:** Ensure that the marshals at each Checkpoint sign your check card
PLEASE OBSERVE THE COUNTRY CODE.
- SAFETY:** Most of the walk is on country footpaths but where you cross or are near a road do take great care. St John Ambulance will be in attendance.
- DROPPING OUT:** You may drop out at any checkpoint but **YOU MUST REPORT BACK TO THE HIGHFIELD SCHOOL TO END YOUR WALK.**
- TRANSPORT:** If you drop out, a minibus will call at the checkpoint to carry you back to the finish. However, you may have a short wait until its next visit.
- FINISH:** Back at The Highfield School you exchange your check-card for your sponsor card and collect your Certificate from the Rotary President. We hope you enjoy the walk and look forward to seeing you again next year.

If you have any comment to make about the walk or need to report any incident please contact the club's Protection Officer: Rotarian Peter Jackson on 01462 627713

YOU MUST BRING YOUR SPONSOR CARD. Please ensure that it shows clearly the total amount you expect to collect from your sponsors. At your registration desk you will be given your **check card**, badge, map and a written commentary.

Further details available from:

Rtn Roger Buckley

Tel: 01462 631080

e-mail: roger_renata@buckleyyone.freemove.co.uk

Rtn Bob Hopcraft

Tel: 01462 630926

e-mail: bob@icteachers.co.uk

Registration forms will be sent to all Section Leaders during the Easter Break and will be available in the downloadable section of the District website. www.lbdscouts.org.uk



**Letchworth & Baldock
District Scout Council
Cordially Invites you to its**



A.G.M.

Thursday 10 May 2007

7.30 pm for 8.00 pm

at

**Wymondley Wood Scout & Guide Centre
Wymondley Road, Willian, SG6 2UB**

R.S.V.P.

**Rita Hawkins, 1 South Close, Baldock SG7 6DS
pro@lbdscout.org.uk / 01462 643432**

An open invitation is extended to all District Leaders, Helpers and supporters to attend the District Annual General Meeting. Look forward to seeing you there. After the official business there will be a chance to socialize over light refreshments and drinks.



cubs

31 March / 1 April a lovely warm and dry weekend. Why are the Cub Scouts clothes so muddy. All will be revealed in next months edition of Co-ordinator

Wymondley Wood Wardens

April

3 - 10	TBA	
10 - 17	Sheila & David Daw	621699
17 - 24	Pat & David Northover	635752
24 - 1 May	Val Bartlett	730817

May

1 - 8	Bob Williams	686727
8 - 15	Chris King	637901
15 - 22	Maureen Kell	684665



2007 DIARY

April

2	St George's Parade and Service Meeting	8th Letchworth HQ
12	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
13	Dinner & Dance Meeting	1 South Close, Baldock
15	Fellowship "Captain's Table" cruise	River Ouse
15	Gang Show Party	St Francis College
17	Appointments Committee Meeting	1 South Close, Baldock
17	District Scout Leaders Meeting	5th Letchworth
18	District Scout Shop Meeting	Wymondley Wood
19	District Beaver Leaders' Meeting	
22	St George's Day Parade and Service	Broadway Gardens
23	District Celebration + Jamboree Camp Meeting	8th Letchworth HQ, Sparhawke
29	2nd Baldock Scout Car Wash	Catholic Church Car Park, Baldock

May

4 - 7	District Centenary Jamboree Camp	Wymondley Wood
9	Young Leaders Training Module C	Wymondley Wood
10	District AGM	Wymondley Wood
12	District Beaver Challenge	12th Letchworth HQ
13	County Cub 6-a-side Football Competition	
14	District Cub Leaders' Meeting	
20	Rotary GC Charity Walk	Greenway Walk

June

4	Wymondley Wood AGM	Wymondley Wood Scout & Guide Centre
9	District Centenary Sports Day	TBA
10	District Scout Barton Challenge	Barton Hills
14	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood - Wet Weather Shelter
22 - 24	County Explorer Event H.E.A.T.	TBA
25	County A.G.M.	Castle Hall. Hertford
30 - 1 July	County 25/40 Mile Walk	Oxford - Thames Path

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

Editor Rita Hawkins, 1 South Close, Baldock,
Hertfordshire SG7 6DS pro@lbdscouts.org.uk

Printed by: Print Factory, Whitehorse Street, Baldock,
Hertfordshire