



CO - ORDINATOR

**NOVEMBER 2007
ISSUE 542**

Peak Assault - 40th Year

Mother Theatre in Hitchin to catch the coach to our mystery destination. We grabbed the back seats and settled in for a long journey. After eight hours of travelling, we arrived at 2.30am at our destination, CALDBECK in the Lake District, tired and still having to put our tents up! We eventually got in to our sleeping bags at about 3.00am knowing that we would have to be at our kit check at 7.30am. We got a rude a wakening at 6.30am when an announcement was made for team 6 to go to their kit check, so with only a few hours sleep we got ourselves ready for our kit check.



We arrived at the kit check, which is normally a daunting experience, but this year things felt different. Every item of the kit was checked and passed, including the dolls clothes we took as our "spare warm clothing"

The first hill was a struggle but we got to the checkpoint, realising that we had not walked as a team for three years! We decided to ease the pace a little.

Lunchtime came around so we had a count up of the checkpoints we had covered, 8 out of 25, that is what we used to get in a whole day! We decided not to mess around as we were doing well. We made for the furthest check point on the course, which we could get us 12 points! We then headed back to base camp via another nine check points. We were running a bit late and you loose points for that so we ran the last 400 metres so we were only 10 mins late not 20 mins. Very tired, hungry and with sore knees and feet we headed back to base camp for dinner.

After dinner, we just had to sample some of the local ales while watching the rugby. After 5 pints we thought we should get some sleep ready for the next day as we were doing so well, we thought we could win this!

Next morning we all felt good with only a small amount of pain from the day before.

We planned the route for the day and headed off at a steady pace. Some of the team were feeling the pain from yesterday including myself.



Team 6 - Tim Stroud, Steve Woolmer, Nick Howell, Nick Brown, Daniel Staines

We covered another eight checkpoints on the second day and were feeling really good about what we had achieved. We enjoyed a very welcome bowl of stew cooked by the District support crew. We waited for the results to be read out. 5th place was called, not us, 4th, 3rd, & 2nd place not us we thought it was over then "1st place goes to BALINetwork" It was us!

What a wonderful feeling, after years of trying it had finally paid off. 100 years of Scouting, 40 Years of Peak Assault what a year to WIN! After the long journey home, we decided to finish where we started in The Tavern for a well-deserved pint.

Steve Woolmer - BALINetwork

GANG SHOW

We had a committee meeting last week and were genuinely concerned. What to do if we have 200 kids turn up for rehearsals. 200!! It was my fault really. Me being alarmist. I had sent invitations out to all last year's 92 cast and to 15 from the previous year. I had visited 11 packs/units and had handed out 114 letters to prospective members and various Leaders had handed out more invitations, and we had all had lots of enquiries. I conservatively estimated a potential cast of over 250. And that's a lot of noisy youngsters.

It was with some trepidation that 4.30 pm on Saturday 27 October arrived.

Of course, in the end we had 78 turn up. Allowing for absentees and promises I can expect a cast of about 100 and that is just about right.

And so a new year begins.

So much to look forward to. We rehearsed the finale and the new wow! songs at the end are already sounding so good. And I can hear harmonising opportunities. Maybe.

This year we are deliberately stretching ourselves artistically, with three powerpoint/filmed items and a live rock band on stage. And lots of big dancing and loud songs. And a pirate ship on stage. And more aliens, and more surprises.

But it's the kids themselves that make it. The youngsters who are nervous now but still brave enough to volunteer to do a reading or be in a sketch, even at the first rehearsal. Good for you guys!

And seeing the Scouts/Guides coming back for their 4/5/6th year in the Show. And then seeing them being excited and eager to learn what we have in the Show this year. And volunteering for everything.

All the work that has gone into producing the music and the script for a new Show is done and now Gang Show 2008 is born and takes on a life of its own. It has a lot of growing to do until March.

But wouldn't it have been amazing if we really did have had 250 turn up...

Dave Strong - Producer

Peak Assault - Letchworth and Baldock Results

**Explorer Scouts (Training)
Senior Competition**

Team 56 Oak Eagles position - fourth
Team 6 BALi Network position - first
Team 12 Bacchus VSU position - twelfth
Team 13 Champion Hills VSU position - eightieth
Team 20 Letchworth and Baldock position - twenty sixth

District Senior Team - Simon "Goody" Goodwin SL 4th Letchworth , Gareth Howell SL 5th Letchworth, Tony Hartley ASL 4th Letchworth, Fiona Potts, CSL, 1st Baldock, Jackie Hare, ASL 7th Letchworth and Lesley Gwilt, SL, 8th Letchworth — Well done on gaining 66 points



Even having time to read Co-ordinator



LEES WOOD TRIATHLON

On the 21 October three of my Scout team mates and myself set off on my first official Scout event.

It was a triathlon at Lees Wood. We were going to be running, cycling and shooting.

Our first event was running on a pathway through the woods which went down and up a hill. It was quite hard going and I had a stitch in my side. I finished with my team mate Andrew and I think our timing was good.

Our next event was cycling which went around the edge of the wood on a horse path with lots of poo on it. It was a bit of a struggle and Cacy, unfortunately, found a big ditch.

Our final event was the shooting which everyone was looking forward to, especially Lewis since he was quite an expert.

I had never done it before so I didn't do so good but I really enjoyed it. Maybe I will hit a target next time.

Even though we were two away from last we all really had an exciting adventure.

Jamie Sherwood - 8th Letchworth Scout



CYCLO-X Competition - 14 October 2007

On a very warm and sunny Sunday afternoon, two teams from Letchworth & Baldock took part in the cyclo-x competition at Well End Activity Centre.

The course this year was a bit longer and a bit more challenging than previous years, but both teams were up for the challenge!

7th Letchworth was one of the first teams to race and they got a good start, but sadly, one of the team fell off in to some stinging nettles. Unhurt they got back on and cycled to the finish line.

1st Baldock Knights had to wait a long time for their race. At one pint we thought that they had been forgotten! However, with 20 teams altogether it was just taking a long time to get them through the course.

At last 1st Baldock Knights got their chance. The team rode very well, all having enjoyed the challenge.

Both teams got a chance to ride again, this time with no accidents.

All of the children had a great time, and the weather was perfect for the parents waiting to encourage them round the course.

Sadly, we did not win this year! However, watch out! We will be back next year!





5th Letchworth Scout Troop at Harmer Green

Five adults and ten Scouts from 5th Letchworth Scout Group went to Harmer Green for a Back Wood Camp. Nick Howell ASL is cooking the roast potatoes and parsnips in their ready made oven.

8th Letchworth Scout Troop at Harmer Green

Two leaders and five Scouts from 8th Letchworth Scout Group went to Harmer Green for their Autumn Camp.

On the Saturday evening 8th Letchworth Scouts joined 5th Letchworth Scouts for a wide game.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 11 NOVEMBER 2007



The District will once again be attending the Remembrance Day Services in both Letchworth and Baldock. 4th Letchworth Scout Group will be attending the St Paul's Service. All Groups have been circulated with the appropriate details. Just a gentle reminder that all those attending should be in full uniform. Dave Hawkins DC will attend the Letchworth Service and Chris King DESC will attend the Baldock Service. The District has organised wreaths for both locations.

REACHING OUT TO THE PUBLIC

OCTOBER 2007



Five Scout Groups took advantage of **"Sainsbury's Scout Community Week"** to boost their funds by over £1000.00 by helping customers pack their bags. We are very grateful for the generosity of Sainsbury's customers and the interest and goodwill that they showed our Scouts. Congratulations to those who took part who were smartly dressed, pleasant and polite and a credit to the District.

The event also provided an opportunity to publicise Scouting to adults through a display of Scouting material. Leaders were also on hand to answer any questions.

Thank you to the following Groups who took part

2nd Baldock, 4th Letchworth, 7th Letchworth, 8th Letchworth and 12th Letchworth. Thank you to the Leaders who manned the stand.



VOLUNTEER WEEKEND

The Volunteer Weekend organised by the Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation gave us the opportunity to join other local volunteer groups in advertising our activities to the public.

The event was a great success with over seven hundred visitors, many of whom showed an interest in Scouting. One of the Leaders manning our stall was a recruit from the previous event so let us hope the seeds sown this time will lead to more Leaders in the District.

Thank you to Sarah Crombie for all the hard work she put into organising the event.



DISTRICT WALKING TREASURE HUNT

Despite the problems caused by the postal strike slowing the arrival of entries at Chez Gage, I had a good number of forms to mark and sort through to find the eventual winners. Many of the entries were high scoring and every one of the entrants did themselves proud.

The winners were –

Baldock Quiz



Leader – Goodie – 4th Letchworth Scouts – 46 points

Scout – Ollie W – 2nd Baldock Scouts – 47 points

Cub – Daniel B – 1st Baldock (Templars) Cubs – 48 points

Beaver –Matthew C – 1st Baldock (Tuesday) Beavers – 48 point

Letchworth Quiz

Leader – Oak - 7th Letchworth Beavers – 50 points

Scout – Katie G – 4th Letchworth Scouts – 50 points

Cub – George P – 7th Letchworth Cubs – 50 points

Beaver – Thomas R – 2nd Baldock Beavers – 38 points

Well done to all the winners – prizes for the winners and certificates for all entrants will arrive at your Groups shortly.

Finally, I have to say "Thank You" to a few people.

The first "Thank you" is to Ann Martin (11th Letchworth) and Fiona Potts (1st Baldock) for going round to all the shops involved, asking for their help, delivering all the badges and posters to be put into the windows and going round and collecting the posters and badges back in when the event had finished. Thank you – it wouldn't have happened without you!

The second "Thank you" is to all the businesses that found a space in their window to help and support us in our Centenary year.

For a list of locations and badges please visit the District Website - www.lbdscouts.org.uk

Vicki Gage – ADC (Beavers Scouts)

NEW RATES FOR DISTRICT MINBUS

The following hire rates will apply from 1 January 2008.

Evening Hire: Hourly rate of £5.00 per hour up to three hours

	District	Out of District
Half Day	£ 25	£ 30
Day	£ 40	£ 50
Weekend	£100	£120
Week	£200	£240

Plus the cost of fuel.





The Fellowship held their AGM on Saturday 20 October at 8th Letchworth HQ, Sparhawk. This was well attended and it nearly doubled last year's attendance. After the formal part of the meeting Dave Hawkins, DC, was pleased to present three

members of the Fellowship with certificates recognising their service to Scouting. The evening was rounded off by one off Fred Lovelock's cryptic quizzes, a raffle and a whisky roll. The raffle and whisky roll made £58 which more than covered the cost of holding the AGM.

The next social event will be the Christmas dinner to be held at

Howard Social Centre, Hillshott

8 December 2007

19:30 for 20:00 hrs

The District Fellowship will also be celebrating their 30th Anniversary at this event.



Mike Thomason - Bar to the Long Service Decoration - 25 years



Joan Ludford - Chief Scout's Long Service Decoration - 40 years



Rod Tiplady - Chief Scout's 50 years Long Service Decoration

Last Event of the Centenary Celebrations - Saturday 15 December 2007

To mark the end of the Centenary of Scouting the District has been in discussion with North Herts District Council and Rap-Aid. We have been invited to join the Carol Service to be held at Broadway Gardens at 17:00hrs on Saturday 15 December 2007. It is anticipated that the service will last for 30 minutes. It is the intention to have the young people and Leaders approach Broadway Gardens in a torch lit parade from three different points. During the service the Centenary Flags, which will be flown for the day, will be lowered to mark the end of the District celebrations of the Scouting Centenary. All the past eleven District events have been very well attended so please encourage members of your group to attend. Parents, grandparents, ex-Scouters are all welcome. Details will be circulated as they are received from the Council.

The Carol Service is part of a weekend of celebrations, which include a funfair, stalls and much more.



Well done to 8th Letchworth Scout Group who with the help of their parents and friends collected over a thousand Sainsbury's vouchers.

2007 DIARY

November

2	District Firework Display	Wymondley Wood
3	District Arts and Craft Competition	1st Baldock HQ
7	District Celebration Meeting	District HQ
8	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
9	District Fellowship Social Event	Pirates of Penzance - Gordon Craig Theatre
11	Remembrance Day Service & Parade -	Baldock and Letchworth
12	District Cub Leaders' Meeting	
16	Children in Need	Various Groups
16 - 18	County Scout Green Beret	Tolmers
17 - 18	District Commissioners' Forum	Wyboston
18	County Cub Leader Skills Day	Stevenage
19	District Lochearnhead Meeting	District HQ
21	Young Leaders Training - Module F	
23	District Cub Quiz	5th Letchworth HQ
26	11th Letchworth HQ official opening	11th Letchworth HQ
27	District Scout Leaders' Meeting	5th Letchworth HQ
30	8th Letchworth Scout Group Beetle Drive	8th Letchworth HQ

December

8	District Fellowship Xmas Dinner	Howard Social Centre
10	District Team Meeting	1 South Close, Baldock
13	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
15	Carol Service	Broadway Gardens

Wymondley Wood Wardens

November

30 - 6	Vicki Gage	630728
6 - 13	Sheila & David Daw	621699
13 - 20	Sue Chapman	630881
20 - 27	Shirley & David Rossall	431884
27 - 4	Karen Green	683003

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

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