

CO – ORDINATOR

Issue 550
July 2008

ADC (Scout Fellowship) made a national newspaper



Letchworth and Baldock District's very own Assistant District Commissioner (Scout Fellowship), Roger Comley made the National newspaper 'The Times' as a fool.

Thaxted Morris dancers from across Britain gathered in Essex for a raucous and colourful celebration of the folk tradition.

Thaxted is considered the modern spiritual home of morris dancing

Roger joined the Letchworth Morris Men in 1990 and soon fitted into the role of Fool, or assistant to the local Squire. His enthusiasm and exuberance soon led to bigger and better things and he now performs throughout the country as Fool to the Squire of England.



Liz Taplin and Lisa Eke - Assistant Beaver Leaders with 8th Letchworth being invested by Vicki Gage ADC (Beavers)



Thank you for the donation of £200 raised by the collection at the Scout's annual St George's Day Service.

This generous donation is gratefully received to help us with our summer programme of treats and outings. As you may know we have had a large cut in our funding and all donations are of great help to us in continuing our work with vulnerable families.

Please pass on our grateful thanks to everyone.

Kathy Glanville - Organiser.

Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre now has water

After a difficult period of low water pressure and many visits from Three Valleys Water and independent consultants we have water flowing freely at the Centre once more. The solution has been to sink a large storage tank (1980 litres) into the ground by the front door with a pressure pump which reacts when an appliance is turned on. This has the capacity to have all taps, showers and toilets running for 26 minutes which should be more than adequate for our needs! Do not feel tempted to test this ! - we are on a water meter!

We are grateful to Jenny, Principle Customer Manager at Three Valleys Water and to Luke, Ben and Ray from Mosleys for their advice and undertaking the work.

We are also grateful to Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation for a generous grant of £12,500 towards the cost of the project.

We would like to thank everyone who has been so understanding and co-operative during this difficult period of time.

Bob Williams - Chairman Management Committee



8th Letchworth Beaver Scouts

The Beavers from 8th Letchworth enjoyed a real treat in June. They went in the District minibus to visit the police helicopter based at RAF Henlow.

Once we had got our passes and cleared security, we drove round to the hanger. We met the crew which consisted of a pilot and two police officers. One of the police officers then showed us round their Operations Room. We saw a huge wall map of the area that this helicopter and the one based at RAF Benson cover.

The map showed all the places that the helicopter can re-fuel if needed. There were also markers on it that showed any hazards that the crew had been notified of. We saw one warning them of a hot air balloon in the Welwyn Garden City area that evening.

Then it was time to go and see the helicopter close up. Each Beaver got to sit in the front seat and work the controls for the camera underneath. They also got to sit in the back seat and put on one of the helmets. Even the Leaders tried on the helmets, much to the Beavers' amusement !

Unfortunately a job came in and they had to go. We all stood in a safe place and waved good bye to our new friends as they disappeared into the distance.

To show our appreciation the Beavers drew pictures of the helicopter and wrote thank you letters to all the crew.

Liz Taplin 8th Letchworth ABSL



District Cub Scout Camp - Chalfont Heights June 2008

Following months of planning - on Friday 13 June 2008, 93 Cubs, 5 Young Leaders, 1 Beaver, 23 Leaders, 5 Parents and the DC went to Cub Camp at Chalfont Heights Scout Camp in Buckinghamshire.

The Leaders set up camp on the Thursday evening ready to receive the Cubs on Friday night.

The coaches arrived at Fearnhill School in Letchworth on Friday evening where they were met by parents and excited Cubs keen to get to Camp. Once the coaches were loaded with both Cubs and kit they were on route to Chalfont arriving at 7:45pm. The site was very busy with many other groups staying the very same weekend.

After settling all of the Cubs in, site rules were explained and they were split into their activity groups which included two leaders and one young leader per group. These groups would remain together for all the forthcoming activities.

A guided tour of the whole site was next on the agenda so that everyone would know where the activities were and where they would be going the following day. After the tour it was time for supper and bed as it was going to be a very busy couple of days. Most of the Cubs were soon asleep but the young leaders remained awake eventually going to bed at about 4:00am. They must have had very little sleep as the Cubs were up at about 5:00am. By 8:00am everyone was up and ready for breakfast.

Activities started after Grand Howl and the Cubs were going to be busy all day. The activities included climbing wall, archery, rifle shooting, swimming, rabbit run (mini potholing), adventure course to name but a few. The camp activities were catapults and bottle rockets – thank you to Barry for organising these two activities. The Cubs had great fun with these especially with firing wet balls at the Leaders and seeing whose rocket went the furthest.

On Saturday evening, Steven Woolmer organised the campfire. Other Groups on the site were invited to join us. After the Cubs spent the evening singing, jumping up and down it was time to go back to camp for supper and bed time. With everyone having such a busy day the Cubs were soon fast asleep. All the Leaders were not far behind.

Next morning everyone was up and ready for breakfast at 8:30am. Following breakfast and Grand Howl, Fiona Potts took Cubs Own in the site Chapel. The theme was the world around us and neighbour. This went down very well with the Cubs and it certainly made us think about all that is around us and other people.

On completing Cubs own, it was time to go back to camp and start to pack up, all the Cubs were encouraged to help as the equipment had to be packed and the site clear before the coaches arrived to take us all home.

The coaches arrived on time and we were away by 3:30pm arriving at Fearnhill School shortly after half past four. Parents were waiting to greet tired Cubs and exhausted Leaders.

The feedback that I have received so far is that everyone had a great time and enjoyed the whole weekend.

The Cubs were so well behaved it is a credit to this District. The Warden at Chalfont commented on how well behaved they all were – well done to all the Cubs.



I would like to say a big Thank you to the Leaders, young Leaders, Parents and all the Cubs for their help and support over the weekend because without them the Camp would not have gone ahead. Thank you also to Chris King for coming down to help with the archery and staying over. The weather was very good to us, it remained sunny throughout the weekend.

By sleeping over this particular weekend we took part in the giant sleep over. This was part of a World Record attempt on the number of people sleeping out at one time. I can confirm that the record was broken by a considerable margin and money was raised for Save the Children Fund.

Wendy Tierney - ADC (Cubs)

7th Letchworth Cubs

I climbed a 18m climbing wall , it was really nerve-racking. I got to the top and abseiled down. I was really scared but it was exciting.

Jared Guy

I had two favourite things on Cub Camp. One of them was the obstacle course because it was really fun going on all of the things there. I also enjoyed the climbing wall because I got to the top and it was fun and I also like the abseiling.

Anneka Goater

The most exciting bit was the swimming pool. Even though it was freezing. The best bit about the swimming pool was the brick. You have to dive down for it.

Michael

My favourite things at camp

1. Archery because I nearly got a bull's eye, but it was on the line between the red and yellow.
2. Rabbit Run because it was really funny when 'Hairy Legs' (Steven Woolmer) jumped out when I was in the tunnels.
3. Swimming because the water was cold to cool you down if you were hot like I was.

Francesca

The most exciting thing I did was the rifle shooting because it was fun and I got nine out of ten. The other thing I enjoyed was the obstacle course because it was fun and exciting.

Alexandra Daniles



District Cub Scout Camp



District Scout Kon Tiki Competition - Stotfold Mill

The biannual competition took place over the weekend of 7 - 8 June on the river at Stotfold Mill. Teams from troops throughout the District took part. On the Saturday the teams had to build a raft which had to carry four Scouts along a course on the river. All teams, with help from their Leaders had to modify their original designs. On the Sunday all the rafts took part in 'The Battle of Trafalgar' (free for all water fight). The Scouts thoroughly enjoyed the weekend. Thank you to the 'Tickner family' for organising the event and to Edmond for supervising the event and the District Fellowship for their help.



All Leaders should have received clarification of the guidelines regarding the District policy on CRB clearance. Please contact your ADC if you have not received the document.

2009 Diaries will shortly be distributed to all Leaders.

Have a relaxing summer break and Co-ordinator will be back in September.



8th Letchworth Scouts



8th Letchworth Scouts went over to Pegsdon Hills for the evening for some walking and map reading practice, and while we were there, Lesley Gwilt, SL, invested two new Scouts James Burgess and James Boyd.

The Scouts did really well as for most of them this was their first 'proper' go at map reading.

Quote of the night came from Casey though - 'We'll go down this path and round the corner and there will be lots of flat hills!'



Nine members of the Fellowship acted as judges at the District Scout Kon Tiki Competition held on 7 - 8 June 2008. They had to judge the standard of raft building, team work and lashings.

ADC, Roger Comley appeared in The Times Newspaper in his role as Fool to the Squire of all England.

On 24 June the Fellowship held a picnic at Wymondley Wood which was very well attended. The weather was a bit blowy but this did not stop us from having an enjoyable time. Some members dressed up as knights of old. Thanks to Sue King for bringing along the medieval gear. Chris was there with his bows and arrows. There are now budding Robin Hoods in the Fellowship.

Sue and her catering team provided a ploughman's picnic for us.

The 4th Letchworth Beavers provided the entertainment as they had a games night.

We do so enjoy seeing the young members of the Scouting Movement out and doing what the young should be doing, having a good time.

News *fellowship*

Recognised by his knobbly knees



Fred Lovelock



Latest addition to Wymondley Wood. A full size Chess Set to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Fellowship in 2007.

Well done to 11th Letchworth Scout Group who have held two very successful fund raising events. A cake and bric a brac stall outside WH Smith and a stall at the Pixmore School Fayre - over £450 was raised for the Group Funds. Congratulations to the committee and parents for all their efforts. Next event is Lions Day in July held on Broadway Gardens. The money raised will help provide a new storage facility at their HQ.



Anne Lilley and Eric 'Skip' Woodward helping judge the Kon Tiki Competition

Training - Module 3 'Tools for the Job' (Section Leaders)

Monday 21 July 2008 - 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

District HQ - Icknield Way, Letchworth

Aim

To provide the basic information on the individual's Section, role and area of responsibility; to offer some practical help to get the individual started in their job

Objectives

There are eight overall objectives for this module:

1. Outline the main feature of the Section with which they are working, including the age, range, theme, groupings and the decision-making and programme planning processes
2. Demonstrate the main ceremonies used in the Section
(opening, closing, presenting badges and so on)
3. Explain the roles and responsibilities that different people undertake during a Section meeting.
4. Detail various sources of 'ready made' programme ideas.
5. Run or facilitate part of a Section meeting explain why different types of games and activities are an important part of the Programme.
7. Outline the important criteria for games and activities in Scouting
8. Introduce (and run) a game or activity to their Section

The training will be facilitated by Bob Williams and an experience team of Leaders from each section. All adults requiring module 3 will be individually contacted inviting them to attend. Completion of Module 3 will take you one step towards your full warrant. Please make every effort to attend this module. We look forward to seeing you on the evening.

CALLING ALL GROUP EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The District will be holding an Administration Evening on Monday 20 October 2008 at the District HQ. Please make a note in your diary. You will be contacted directly nearer the time.

2008 DIARY

JULY

4 - 6	District Scouts Hill Walking Weekend	Orchard Farm
4 - 6	County H.E.A.T (Explorer Scouts)	Well End
6	District Fellowship Canal Trip	Huntingdon
7	County A.G.M.	County Hall, Hertford
10	Scout & Guide Shop	Closes for the Summer
10	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
12 - 13	County Fun Fair - Hertfordshire Centenary	Phasels Wood
15	District Beaver Scouts Bangers and Bash	Wymondley Wood
16	2nd Baldock AGM	2nd Baldock HQ
21	District Training Module 3	District HQ
26	Lions Day	Broadway Gardens
28	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood

AUGUST

10	Lovelock's Garden Party (Fellowship)	Campers Road
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SEPTEMBER

4	District Beaver Leaders' Meeting	1st Baldock HQ
6	District Orienteering (Training day for Lochearnhead participants)	
8	District Lochearnhead Meeting	District HQ
9	Scout & Guide Shop	Reopens
11	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
16	District Scout Leaders' Meeting	5th Letchworth HQ
20	County Cub Night Hike	
23	12th Letchworth AGM	TBA



Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

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

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