

## Remembrance

Since 1922, there has been an Honour Guard of Queen's Scouts (and formerly King's Scouts) flanking the door from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office to the Cenotaph. There are no remaining written records in The Scout Association archives to tell us precisely the history of the first Honour Guard, but it is probable that the King's Scouts were there at the request of King George V himself.



Remembrance Sunday for Scouts isn't about marching like soldiers or glorifying war. It's about representing fellow Scouts who 'did their best' in frightening and dangerous circumstances for the sake of their community and their country. Last year, one lonely placard, waving above the heads of the crowd, read 'The Young Are Grateful'.



## Scouts at war

By the end of the World War 2 more than 60,000 Scouts had been awarded the National Service Badge for their work at home. They had worked as First Aid orderlies, signallers, telephonists, Air Raid Precaution (ARP) messengers, stretcher-bearers, Coast Watch, Home Guard instructors and Rest Centre assistants. They had made camouflage nets, helped evacuate thousands of younger children from bombed city centres, harvested millions of tonnes of food and animal fodder, chopped wood on a massive scale (around 600,000 hours) and salvaged glass, metal and rubber for re-use.

However, it was the service performed by Scouts during the air raids and the Blitz on London that showed outstanding courage and application of the words of the Scout Promise and Law. Eighty young Scouts were given Scouting gallantry medals, and in London, Coventry and Liverpool the Silver Cross (Scouting) was awarded to entire Troops. Individual Scouts were awarded the George Medal and George Cross. Fifteen Scouts just old enough to serve in the forces were awarded the Victoria Cross. One particular service Scouts gave to London was guiding fire engines in from the outskirts to the city by the quickest routes to blazing buildings. When they couldn't get any closer to the fires because of the danger, the Scouts provided First Aid treatment and a barricade to stop others getting too close.

Here in Letchworth and Baldock Scouts guarded the reservoir at Weston during the First World War. In the Second World War they acted as messengers and the Scout HQ in Icknield Way was taken over by the military.



### fellowship



Over thirty members of the District Fellowship attended the A.G.M. held at Sparhawke one Saturday night in October.

After the formal business, in which Dave Upson was re-elected as Chairman, Arthur Scott, Treasurer and Fred Lovelock Secretary the members tucked into a excellent buffet. Thank you to Sue and her team who once again did us proud. This was followed by the now traditional Whiskey roll, which was won by Arthur.

Those present formed themselves into teams which were treated to a 'Call My Bluff' competition organised and compered by Nick Farmer. He was ably assisted by Sheila Tickner, Lesley Farmer and James Martin, who read out the definitions of the very obscure words. Well they were unknown to most of us but one team had an advantage of K.J. (Ken Johnson) whose specialist subject is the English language.

**Eileen Phillips**  
**Happy 80th Birthday**

## Beaver Visit to Letchworth Library 8th Letchworth

One Thursday evening in October, the Beavers from 8th Letchworth paid a visit to Letchworth library. We had a very interesting talk from one of the children's librarians. She told us that it is free to become a member and once you have joined, you can borrow up to twelve items at one time. Although she recommended only two or three at a time !

She explained how you can use your card in any library in Hertfordshire and also return your books to any library in Hertfordshire, not necessarily the one you borrowed them from in the first place. You can keep your books for up to 3 weeks but if you forget to bring them back you will get a fine. We learnt what services the library provides and what things you can borrow or rent.

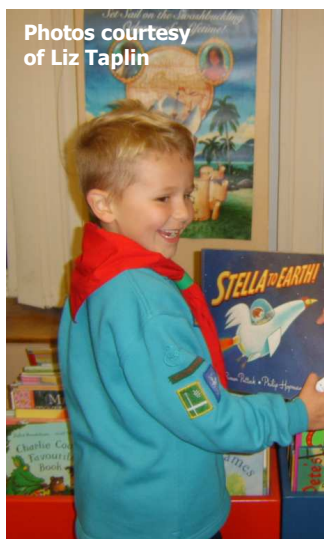
Some of the mums discovered that they can borrow the latest magazines for up to a week.

We were able to ask questions. The best one was from Rhys' "How many books are in the library?" But the lady didn't know. She said she would find out.

Everyone received a sticker and a bookmark and those with cards already were then able to choose some books to borrow. Those who didn't have cards took home some leaflets so their parents can bring them down to join at a later date.

It was a very enjoyable, and informative evening, and all the Beavers were very well behaved.

**Well Done**  
**Liz Taplin - BSL**



County News

hertfordshire  
**scouts**



County Archivist - Frank Brittain has been promoted. His new posh title is History and Heritage Section of Hertfordshire Scouts (quite a mouth full) but well deserved.

## Bring a Friend Day Tolmers Activity Centre

**Saturday 21 March 2009**

Registration 9.00 am, activities start 9.30 and finish 4.00 pm

Cost £4.00 per person (normal price £10.00) This event is subsidised by Hertfordshire Scouts.

For more information and a booking form please contact County Office.

**LOTS TO DO ON THE DAY**



## 16 - 18 January 2009 - Tolmers

**£15 per person (includes camp fees and all activities)  
only £5 for leaders.**

Activities planned: Archery, Rifle Shooting, Rock (Rotating climbing wall) Vertical Wall, Rope-A-Phobia, Dodgems, Quad Biking and more.... To warm up on the Saturday there will be a disco, and for the Leaders a chance to relax in our Leaders only area.

A £10.00 deposit is required. Booking forms can be found on the County Website.

**Tolmers Scout Camp and Activity Centre**  
**Tolmers Road, Cuffley, Hertfordshire, EN6 4JS**  
**Tel: 01707 872 900 | Fax: 01707 872 960**

**email: [info@tolmers.org.uk](mailto:info@tolmers.org.uk) | website: [www.tolmers.org.uk](http://www.tolmers.org.uk)**



## **P.A.W.** **Patrol Activity Weekend** **1 - 4 May 2009**

The cost will be £42.50 per Scout/Guide. This will include all camp and activity fees – but not food. The cost to the leaders is £40.00 per person. This will include food and is payable even if you cater for yourself.

For a poster, leaflets and a booking form please visit the County Website or alternatively go to the Tolmers website: [www.tolmers.org.uk](http://www.tolmers.org.uk)



## Gang Show 2009

If I can't beat it, I won't try.

Over the last few years Letchworth and Baldock Gang Show has got bigger and better with each year culminating with last year's spectacular big effects and big sound.

Gang Show 2009 is not as big. I am deliberately not trying to beat 2008.

In this year's Show we have sections on Circus (with hopefully some fun juggling and clowning) Fish and Mermaids, a High School Disco and I am repeating Andrea's Raggedy Kids section from 2003 with a mix of Oliver and Annie. Lots of great music, costumes and bags of fun. We've also got some sketches, a bit of stand-up comedy and a couple of surprises.

I've recently visited 10 Packs and Troops selling Gang Show and hope to have lots of new faces again this year.

Rehearsals start at 1<sup>st</sup> Baldock HQ on Saturday November 1<sup>st</sup> at 4.30pm to 6.00pm for Cubs and Brownies and 6.00pm to 7.30pm for Scouts and Guides. All Scouting and Guiding members are welcome. If you want an introduction letter and permission form please e-mail me. If you still want me to come and visit your lot and tell them about the Show.. there is still time.. just ask.

This year may not be the biggest L&BGS ever. But it will be every bit as much fun.

The Show is on March 20 and 21 2009, please put it in your diary.

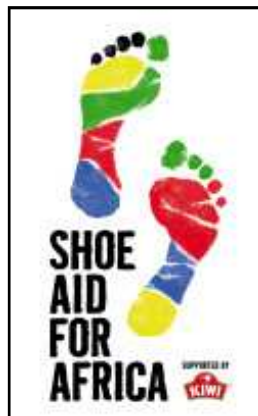
**Dave Strong Producer/Director**  
**01462 624309**  
**[thestrongies@ntlworld.com](mailto:thestrongies@ntlworld.com)**



**8th Letchworth Scout Group have been collecting shoes for Shoe Aid for Africa.**

**The aim of the campaign is to collect predominately children's unwanted shoes, smarten them up and distribute them in Africa in time for their new school year in January.**

**The Group with the help of other Groups in the Letchworth and Baldock District have collected over 450 pairs and still counting.**







## Standalone 10K and Junior Fun Run 12th / 11th Letchworth Scouts

Sunday 5 October 2008  
*Organised by North Herts Road Runners*

A team of fifteen Scouts from 12<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Letchworth assembled at Standalone Farm Letchworth on a very wet Sunday morning to enter the junior fun run section of the Standalone 10 Road Race. They were supported by an assortment of parents, Gavin the Scout Leader and Jinty the dog.

This was the final part of their fitness challenge. Although with the atrocious weather conditions it should also count as a survival exercise.

The Scouts watched the athletes start the main race and then cheered them on as they crossed the finishing line.

Then it was time for the junior fun runners to assemble. After a warm up with Colin the Clown it was onto the starting blocks and off.

The course followed a very wet 2km circuit around the farm paths.

First Scout home and 4<sup>th</sup> overall was Arthur Thomson (12<sup>th</sup>).



All the Scouts completed the course and received their race medals. They were then presented with their Fitness Challenge badges by Richard Harbon, the race director. Richard had also visited the Scouts at a troop night and given a presentation on North Herts Road Runners and the sport of running so a big thanks to him for supporting the Scouts.

**Gavin**  
**Scout Leader**

## Duxford

### District Cub Scouts Day Out

On Sunday 12 October 2008 I went with over 200 Cubs to Duxford Imperial War Museum. We went in a minibus which Akela drove and it took about half an hour to get there. We were all given a sheet when we got onto the minibus. There were questions to be answered on our visit about what type of aeroplanes and aircraft registration codes we would see at Duxford.

When we got there, first of all we went into Air Space. There were lots of planes in Air Space including the famous Concord which we were able to go into and have a look around. It was really good inside Concord and when we got out we stood underneath the tail of Concord which is really huge. Also in Air Space there was a Lancaster plane and a Rolls Royce engine that powered Spitfires, Hurricanes and Supermarine Spitfires during the war.

On the second floor of Air Space there is a Funzone. There is a hub there that has a wind funnel and a wooden plane. The wind funnel blows wind at the wooden plane and we were able to move a lever which controls the rudders on the plane. This can make the plane face up, down, left, right and even diagonally.



We then went to a hangar, where there are a lot of planes being repaired. These include a B-17 Flying Fortress plane called the Memphis Belle (pronounced Bell). This is a really famous plane that has had a film made about it.

We then stopped for lunch which we ate outside on the grass by the Hillside Hangar as it was a very sunny day.

We next went to the American Air Force Hangar. This is built into the side of a hill. It is very clever because when you enter the hangar you enter the side of the hill. In the American Air Force hangar there is a Lockheed Blackbird fighter jet

and the apparently larger version of the B2-Bomber jet. Outside there were two planes which we were allowed to go into, a B.O.A.C. plane and a Trident Two plane. Inside these planes the smell was so bad that it made you feel queasy. There were five planes in total outside, two British Airways planes, one at the front and one at the back of the row of planes. There was also a Monarch plane and the B.O.A.C plane and the Trident Two plane.

In total we saw about fifteen planes take off or land from the runway there.

Our last visit was to the Land War section. There was a man who told us about life in the Army. There were also lots of tanks, trucks and cannons. There were mannequins of soldiers in the Army to make it look more realistic.

We had a great day which was really fun but after the wartime experience it was time to go home.

**Joshua Andrews**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Letchworth Cubs**

## Born2BChallenged 5th Letchworth Scouts

On Friday 26 September we went to Born to the Challenged. When we got there we had to put up the tents and put our stuff in it. After that we did a big grand howl. We went to bed when Charlie said! It was about 9ish. I didn't sleep too well because Ciaran had his legs on me and I could not move them off.

The next morning we made breakfast which was toast. It was very nice. We were told to get wood for a camp fire. We were collecting some bark because it burns really easily and Ciaran noticed a fallen tree with lots of bark flakes. We got so much we had to put it on a board to carry it back. But when we got back to camp Charlie told us it was too wet so we had to carry it all back again!

Lunch was trout, which was tasty. We got top marks from the food judges. Dinner was not so good. We then had a camp fire.

On the last day we did all the activities. There was first aid, archery, air rifle shooting, rock climbing and an assault course.

The weekend was really good. But I think the activities should have been spread out over the two days.

**Bradley**  
**5th Letchworth Scout**



**Very well done to George, Charlie, Ben M, Bradley, Ciaran, Luke F, Graham for winning the award of Best Patrol for the Weekend - you did 5th Letchworth proud.**

Born 2 B challenged was a competition. As soon as we had been registered we were getting marked. We had to put up the tents by ourselves and cook five meals (nine courses) over the weekend! We had to build things like a washing up rack, look after a fire and keep our part of the site clean and tidy.

There were also lots of fun activities we could do like shooting and archery. We did an assault course which had a vertical wall in it and Ciaran found it hard to get over! Also there was a climbing wall which we abseiled down. It was great fun!

On Saturday evening we had a campfire and acted in sketches. We did one about the world's smelliest Scout! We even got two free glow sticks!

Overall, our patrol, from 5<sup>th</sup> Letchworth Scouts came third in Born 2 B Challenged. However we won best patrol! Three of us had just been enrolled to our Group so we were very pleased with ourselves! Thanks to George and Charlie our Group Leaders who led us to victory.

**Ben Milligan**  
**5th Letchworth Scout**

Photo taken by Nick Howell



## Peak Assault

### It's not just kids who have fun!

On Friday evening Lesley, Claire and Sarah (Shere Khan) and one of our young leaders Ross joined up with other leaders and Explorer Scouts from Letchworth and Baldock and headed off for an unknown destination in the UK. Five hours later we found ourselves with about three hundred other competitors and support crew from Hertfordshire in a field in Llanthony in the Black Mountains. Over Saturday and Sunday we toiled and sweated over hills and through valleys, clocking up as many checkpoints as we could manage. The Explorer teams carried their overnight kit with them and spent the night in the hills but all the 'old peoples' teams were allowed back to base camp where our support team in the shape of our DC had prepared a very welcome hot meal.

By the time Sunday morning came the joints were stiffening up! It was porridge, coffee and ibuprofen all round for us 'oldies' then off again for a few more hours walking. The autumn colours on the Black Mountains made it all worthwhile and the scenery was stunning.

After five hours coming home on the minibus most of the collective joints had seized up completely much to the amusement of our spouses who came to collect us. At one point Lesley was spotted sliding out of the minibus doorway on her bottom as this was an easier option than trying to stand. We're all 'recovering' well after a hot soak in the bath, a good sleep and a few more painkillers. Sarah's feet took a battering but hopefully she'll be able to walk before cubs tonight.

Our teams from Letchworth and Baldock did very well against very strong competition. In the Explorer competition, Oak Eagle Explorers came 20th with 62 points and our two Explorers walking with Albatross came 12th with 98 points. In the Senior competition our two teams 'Faith' and 'Hope' came a respectable 15th (16 points) and 18th (-29 points, yes - that does say 'minus' - they had a few deducted for being a tad late back!).

We've now got a year to get training again for the next one!



**Claire**

## I H8 KIDZ District Rock Band

Since their amazing debut gig at Rhythms of the World in July, it has been a very busy time for I H8 KIDZ. At the end of August they competed in the local Battle of the Bands competition. Battling against Panda Police and Intermission, the KIDZ put on an impressive show to a packed house at the Letchworth Arts Centre. Narrowly missing the prestigious title, the KIDZ took away much more than the prize money though, an offer of use of a local recording studio and a local production technician to produce the disc! WOW and it all started from joining



Gang Show! A few days later saw the Jackmans Fun Day. I H8 KIDZ opened the main stage with a fantastic performance despite the roof of the stage leaking and the second half of their set having to be delayed whilst the stage was reroofed. Ever the professionals, the young people totally unfazed impressed everyone and took it all in their stride. Then on to the launch event for the "Letchworth Youth Council" A resounding performance of Bat out of Hell opened the whole event. Playing to local dignitaries and a hall full of local young people I H8 KIDZ went down a storm adding to their ever growing fan base. Giving the guys a couple of weeks breathing space, their next gig is at Highfield School's open evening and they have already got two further bookings for later in the year so if you would like to book them for your event, get in early. ROCK ON! For enquiries about bookings contact [traceyaduxbury@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:traceyaduxbury@hotmail.co.uk) or by phone on 07952 257032.



Oak Eagle Explorer  
Scout Unit at Peak  
Assault

Ross, Ed, Sam, Patrick,  
Josh, Jamie and  
Duncan plus Jeremy,  
ESL and Phil AESL (not  
in the photo)

Photos courtesy of  
Tony Hartley.



**County Cyclo Cross - Well End  
8th Letchworth Cub Scouts**



**County Triathlon - Lees Wood  
8th Letchworth Scouts**



## District Sports Day Beaver Scouts

On the afternoon of Saturday 4 October nine Beavers, two Leaders and a group of parents from 8th Letchworth Scout Group braved the elements to attend this year's District Beavers Sports day at Wymondley Wood.

First up was the obstacle race, followed by a straight sprint.

The egg and spoon, or rather the golf ball and spoon race, was very entertaining with quite a lot of cheating going on. But I am pleased to say that none of them were wearing red neckers !

The skipping with a hoop race was more designed for the smaller ones as long legs were a definite disadvantage !

Next up was a relay race.

The water race was very challenging. The Beavers had a plastic cup with various holes in it. They had to fill it with water from their bucket and then run and tip it into an empty 4 pint plastic milk bottle that already had some green food dye in it. They had 10 minutes to try and fill it as full as they could.

The ski race, the sack race and the wheelbarrow race all ended with collapsed heaps of Beavers all over the place. I'm not too sure what race Oliver and Shaun thought they were in!

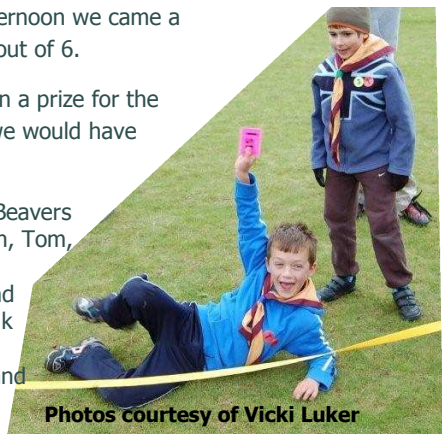


The finale was the marathon where all the 6 year old Beavers ran together and all the 7 year old Beavers ran together. To make sure they all ran the right way, they needed someone who was a good runner to chase after. Up stepped our very own Super Cub, Stan, who did a fantastic job !

At the end of the afternoon we came a very respectable 4<sup>th</sup> out of 6.

But, if there had been a prize for the noisiest supporters we would have won hands down !

Well done to all the Beavers who took part, Kieran, Tom, Jack, Adam, Richard, Shaun, Luke, Mae and Oliver and a big thank you to those parents who stayed to help and support the children



**Photos courtesy of Vicki Luker**

## Jackmans Fun Day



**"I know you like smart uniform but don't you think this is a little excessive!"**

Letchworth and Baldock District helped at the Jackmans Fun Day. Apryl, AESL with the help from Leaders from the District erected a marquee, party tents and numerous gazebos. The District also had promotional display to attract and recruit new Leaders.

Simon (Goodie) 4th Letchworth Scout Leader volunteered to raise money for charity by having his legs waxed. Please see above. I understand that it was a pretty smooth job.

**Most Groups in the District had a representative at the District Administration evening. One Group, 2nd Baldock, had a full house - Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. A number of topics were covered and discussed.**

**It is intended to hold another evening in April 2009. Any ideas for topics to be covered please let Bob Williams know and we will attempt to include them.**





## JOTA

On the weekend of 17 - 19 October 2008, members of our District took part in Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) at Wymondley Wood. Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Leaders contacted Scout Stations from all over the UK, Western and Eastern

Europe, America, Canada, India, South Africa and the Willis Islands just off the coast of Australia with over 50 different contacts being made.

One of the most important Stations contacted was the World Scout Headquarters in Switzerland – HB9S. Over 50 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Leaders visited our Special Event Radio Station – GB0WWS. All of the Beavers managed to complete their Experiment Badge, Cubs and Scouts completed their Communicator Badge and some had time to complete their IT Stage 1 Seven Cubs and Scouts and one Explorer from the District have expressed an interest in signing up for the Foundation Licence Course. Plans are underway to run this in the next couple of months once our trainer licences come through. If anyone else is interested in participating, please email [paulnorthover@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paulnorthover@hotmail.co.uk).

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts had a variety of activities to complete, including sending a greetings message over the radio, a radio treasure hunt, building electronic circuits, morse code, learning how a radio works, tuning a radio and numerous other fun activities.

Mark and I would like to thank all those leaders who brought their Beavers, Cubs and Scouts along to the event. We would also like to thank Paul Dyke from Cambridge Repeater Group for all his help and support for a second year, Tracey Duxbury for preparing and running all the badge work, Carolyn Nunnington (4<sup>th</sup>) for the wonderful cooking, Katie, Beth, Alex (4<sup>th</sup> Scouts) and Jess (8<sup>th</sup> Scouts) for their excellent help with the Beaver and Cub badge work.

Hopefully next year's JOTA will not clash as it did this year with Peak Assault. It was a real shame that the very supportive Explorers and Network Members who attended last year's JOTA were unable to attend this year. We missed you guys.

**Paul Northover (2E0PJN) - ASL 4<sup>th</sup> Letchworth**

**Mark Russell (GB0ROC) - CSL 16<sup>th</sup> Hitchin**



## Recognising the achievements of our Young People



### Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Harry Hennessey	4th Letchworth
Thomas Moulds	4th Letchworth
Joshua Ryan	4th Letchworth
David Sprittle	4th Letchworth
Matthew Weston	4th Letchworth
George Whitehead	4th Letchworth
Ben Williams	4th Letchworth



### Chief Scout's Silver Award

Thomas Bunyan	4th Letchworth
Tom Keeble	4th Letchworth
Evan Walker	4th Letchworth
Connor Williams	4th Letchworth



## A warm welcome to

Phil Charsley	1st Baldock	GSL
Louise Fryer	1st Ashwell	ASL
Nigel Hillyer	12th Letchworth	CSL
Jane Lowrie	1st Baldock	BSL
Dave Wayman	1st Ashwell	ASL



Congratulations to the Explorer Scouts who have taken on the following roles in the Oak Eagle Explorer Scout Unit.

Chairman	Sam Abbott
Secretary	Richard Seaholme
Treasurer	Adam and Jordan Taylor
Quartermaster	Jack Sparry
Young Rep	Ed Potts

# DIARY 2008

## NOVEMBER

4	Scout Shop reopens	6.00 pm
7	Firework Display	Wymondley Wood
9	Remembrance Sunday	Ashwell, Baldock and Letchworth
11	District Scout Leaders' Meeting	5th Letchworth HQ
13	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
14 - 16	County Scout Green Beret	Lees Wood
16	Lovelocks 'At Home'	
24	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	107 Spring Road
28	District Cub Quiz	5th Letchworth HQ

## DECEMBER

8	District Lochearnhead Meeting	District HQ
11	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
16	Scout Shop closes for Christmas	8.00 pm
13	District Fellowship Xmas Dinner	Howard Hall Social Centre
28	Wymondley Wood Meeting	107 Spring Road

## JANUARY 2009

8	Scout Shops reopens	6.00 pm
8	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
25	District Scout Cooking Competition	1st Baldock HQ
26	Wymondley Wood Meeting	107 Spring Road

**"Think of me as you pass by  
Reflect on why I had to die  
So many young lives  
Such senseless wars  
We surrendered our future  
So you could have yours"**

### Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

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