



## LEITCHWORTH AND BALDOCK DISTRICT SCOUTS

March 2009  
Issue 557

**The Movement keeps on growing - Thanks to all our Adults**

We have now completed one of the most difficult and time consuming activities on the Scouting calendar, the Census. Ron Smith, our District Appointments Secretary, has been burning the midnight oil to collate all the returns from our Groups for submission to County within the timescales set. This, having been completed, I can now report that we have had an absolutely stunning total for this District. Two years ago as we started the Centenary year our total membership was 623, after the publicity we received during 2007 our membership in 2008 ballooned to a total of 699. This year, still building on the higher profile of Scouting both locally and nationally, we have recorded a total District membership of 788!. This gives an overall increase in membership of nearly 13%. We have been fortunate enough to have gained a healthy number of new Leaders in the last 12 months and this fact, as we always say, is one of the big contributing issues to growing the movement. We have also re-launched two Sections, 5<sup>th</sup> Letchworth Beavers and 11<sup>th</sup> Letchworth Scouts during this year, the benefits of which I hope we will see as the year progresses. If only we could generate new Leaders as easy as we can recruit the Young People who knows how many members we could have.

From myself and the District Executive I would like to say a huge thank you to all of you, our Leaders, Young Leaders, Sectional Assistants, Executive Members and Parents for giving so freely of your time, showing such selfless dedication and commitment to the movement and providing our 700+ Young People with an exciting mix of learning, fun and adventure.

Without you all, there would not be a Scout movement.

788 members – can we top 800 next year? – who knows – lets give it our best effort!

**Chris King**  
**District Commissioner**



## Appointment of County Commissioner



As you are aware the County Commissioner, Ivor Thomas, will have completed his term of appointment at the end of March.

The County undertook a search process following which it is pleased to announce that the Headquarters Appointments Advisory Committee has confirmed the recommendation that Richard Harrington - DC Harpenden and Wheathampstead be appointed as the new County Commissioner for Hertfordshire. Rikki will take over from Ivor Thomas with effect from 31 March 2009.

You will all wish to join us in offering congratulations to Rikki on his appointment, and we have no doubt that you will provide him with your full support in his new role, as he takes the County forward.

Rob Lyon  
Regional Commissioner, East of England

Michael Shurety  
County Chairman, Hertfordshire



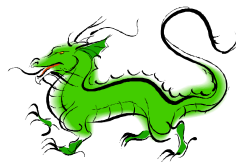
## St George's Day Service and Parade

The Parade will now dismiss and finish in Ashwell School not the Recreation Ground as previously stated. Refreshments will be available. This has been done to bring the dismissal point for the parade nearer to the point where the cars are parked and also provide more undercover space should the weather turn wet.

The Parade Marshal will be Gavin Conder (ADC Scouts).

A rehearsal of 1 hour duration maximum will be arranged for the colour parties on a weekend prior to the day. Chris King will circulate the date to all as soon as it is set.

The route has been approved by the necessary bodies and we are awaiting the official notices.



**Lord Baden-Powell chose Saint George to be The Patron Saint of The Scout Association. St George is typical of what a Scout should be. He felt that the Saint George of legend set a good example of faith, courage and perseverance.**

**"When he was faced by a difficulty or danger, however great it appeared, even in the shape of a dragon - he did not avoid it or fear it but went at it with all the power he could ... That is exactly the way a Scout should face a difficulty or danger no matter how great or how terrifying it may appear. He should go at it boldly and confidently, using every power that he can to try and overcome it, and the probability is that he will succeed. "St. George's Day is April 23, and on that day, Scouts remind themselves of their Promise and Scout Law. Not that a Scout ever forgets either but, on St. George's Day, he makes a special point of thinking about them."**

## Cub Pack Weekend 6 - 8 February 8th Letchworth Cub Scouts

Twenty seven Cubs from 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Letchworth (with a lot of extra energy as the schools had been shut all week!) joined together for a very cold, snowy weekend at Well End Activity Centre. After keeping a close eye on the weather, and keeping fingers crossed that the Council didn't run out of grit to put on the roads before we got there, we all made our way to Borehamwood.

We made a few minor adjustments to the programme (the cyclocross was under snow and the campfire circle was a sheet of ice) so we did firelighting, built shelters and did archery and shooting.

Mim and Ross ran a very loud and lively indoor campfire which almost shook the building and woke the neighbours, after which we all settled down for the night. Unfortunately between some of the Leaders snoring and sleepless Cubs we didn't get a lot of sleep at all. (the roomful of girls need a particular mention here for their antics at 3.30am on the second night – I'm not too sure what Mao said to them when she put her head around their door but they didn't make a sound afterwards so it was obviously effective and they had a few extra cooking pots to wash up in the morning!)

Over the weekend the Cubs all learnt about food and kitchen safety, made biscuits and cooked their own dinner (cottage pie followed by apple crumble and custard.) They all gained their Chef's Activity Badge as well as working towards parts of their Outdoor and Outdoor Plus Challenge Badges.



Darren CSL - 8<sup>th</sup> Letchworth



**Steve, long suffering parent helper  
trying to have a quick nap (no  
chance)**



## Cub Pack Weekend - Well End 8th Letchworth Cub Scouts

On Friday, we travelled down to Borehamwood for our Cub Camp. We arrived at 6.45 pm and brought our bags into one of the five dormitories. I was in the fourth.

Once we had settled in and played some games, we went outside for our first activity, a mini treasure hunt. It was really fun. First we had to go out on to the field with all the other people there and get into groups. The groups were called Bakewell (my group), Flapjacks, Shortbread and Éclairs.

After this we all went to bed but before this we had Claire's hot chocolate, it was tasty.

We woke up, got dressed, cleaned our teeth and then had breakfast. First it was cereal, then a traditional English breakfast with bacon being my favourite.

We then went onto the second activity which was air rifle shooting, again it was fun. When we got to the shooting range Akela showed us how to break the gun and load it. We did not put in real bullets but pellets.

Next was a break for lunch where we had a hot dog, crisps and juice.

Next was the third activity which was cooking. We were cooking cottage pie, carrots and apple crumble, yum, yum apple crumble, which we ate for our tea.

Before bed, we got our camp blankets and had an indoor camp fire because it was too icy and slippery outside. We sang songs with Ross and Mim before going to bed.

Next morning we woke up, got ready, ate another English breakfast and got ready for the fourth activity which was archery. I (Lewis) am rubbish because I either hit the white or missed but my friend Richard (whose birthday it was) had got a bulls eye - well done.

The final activity was shelter building, which we built out of plastic and sisal - thank you Barry Akela.

Finally we tidied our rooms, went to the tuck shop, had grand howl and had to come home.

A Special Thank You to Akela Darren, Akela Barry, Young Leaders, Adult helpers and, of course, Claire for the food.

**Lewis Ryall - 8<sup>th</sup> Letchworth Cub Scout**



[www.lbdscouts.org.uk](http://www.lbdscouts.org.uk)



As I brushed 4 inches of snow from my car ready to pack it full of equipment for the sixth Templars Cub Pack Murder Mystery Camp (MMC VI), the snow was still coming down in large flakes and the cold weather didn't look like it was going to improve much. Still, a little snow wasn't going to spoil our pack holiday and the car was soon full to the gunwales with equipment and fireworks. The journey to Wymondley Wood was easy enough but, with a full car, we couldn't get up the final bit of the track.



Scouting ingenuity and determination came to the fore and we upturned a go-pak table and used it as a sledge for the equipment and were established in the house by mid afternoon. We texted all the Cubs and told them to bring their sledges and arrive as soon as they wanted, but to park at the top of the track and walk from there. Within a couple of hours we were greeted by the site of our pack arriving across the fields pulling their kit on sledges behind them.

After we had settled everyone in, we had a snack tea and then set the scene for our Murder Mystery with presentations, films, murder weapons and suspect profiles. We ate a hot dog supper whilst watching the Jungle Book film and then it was off to team rooms to discuss the clues given so far and work out strategies for solving the mystery, before a well deserved sleep.







Saturday was a crisp bright day and we were soon making the most of the snow, sledging down hills and making ice villages and igloos. In the afternoon all the Cubs used professional fingerprinting equipment to make their own '10 card', dust for fingerprints then lift and mount them before matching them up with master cards. After a superb Chicken Korma with naan bread and poppadoms we had a night treasure hunt, campfire songs and a firework display to music which looked amazing reflected off the snow covered field.

A competition hike using radios to get the next map references was followed by Cubs Own before the Cub Teams revealed their solutions and then the official solution was presented. The winning team members were awarded special 'MMC VI Winner' mugs and various other certificates were also handed out.

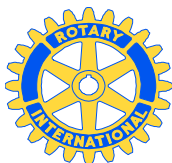


## Cub Pack Weekend - Cottedred 1st Baldock (Knights)

We went to The Guide Centre at Cottedred. We made fires and boiled water over them. We played a wonderful wide game in the dark, it was amazing. We sat round a campfire and did sketches.

We did some cooking and made ginger bread cookies, carrot cake and apple crumble. They were all delicious. We all had a great time and we wished it had never ended. Wearily we had a lovely night's sleep.

**Rachel Middleton - Cub Scout on behalf of First Baldock Knights.**



**Annual Charity Walk  
17 May 2009**

**ROTARY CLUB OF LETCHWORTH GARDEN  
CITY**



**This year's Letchworth Garden City Rotary Club Annual Charity Walk will  
take place on Sunday 17 May 2009.**

All Groups are invited to take part. Each walker will pay a £1 Registration Fee but afterwards the Group will receive £2 for every walker as well as 75% of the sponsor money. This is an excellent opportunity for all Groups to raise funds for equipment or special activities.

Detailed information and registration forms will be posted directly to Groups by early March but in the meantime note the date. There will be hot dogs, snacks, hot and cold drinks available at the refreshment bases at Nortonbury Farm and at Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre.



## Fellowship News

### Entertainment for 2009 Part II

**Date:** Saturday 13 September  
**Event:** Games Night  
**Venue:** 8th Letchworth HQ  
**Cost:** TBA  
**Time:** TBA



**Date:** Saturday 17 October  
**Event:** Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.)  
**Venue:** 8th Letchworth HQ  
**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Date:** Thursday 12 November  
**Event:** Cruise Hill garden centres  
**Venue:** Cruise Hill, Enfield  
**Cost:** TAB



**Time:** TBA  
**Date:** Sunday 12 December  
**Event:** Christmas Dinner  
**Venue:** TBA  
**Cost:** TBA  
**Time:** TBA

For details on how to join the Fellowship or to come to any the events please e-mail Fred Lovelock, Fellowship Secretary - [fredlovelock@msn.com](mailto:fredlovelock@msn.com)

### 2 April 1918 - 1 February 2009

We send our condolences to Eric Woodward on the loss of Madge after nearly sixty years of marriage. They inspired one another with their devotion and their service to the community, especially to young people, is an inspiration to us all.

St Mary's Church was packed for Madge's Memorial Service led by the Reverend Andrew Holford as members of the community showed their love and support for Eric and gave their thanks to Madge for a wonderful life lived in a true Christian spirit.



## Chubb Christmas Card Competition

The competition is to design a Christmas card for 2009 on the theme of 'Keeping safe from fire around Christmas and New Year'. The winning design will be used for the E-Christmas card which will be sent out to customers and contacts for Chubb Fire at Christmas 2009.

Entry is open to Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs and Scouts Troops in the United Kingdom only.

The prizes are not available to employees of Chubb Fire.

First prize £300

Two runners up prizes of £100 each

The prize money must be put towards a group outdoor activity.

All entries should be sent to

Carmen Attard (Fire Safety Competition), Commercial Partnership Department, The Scout Association, Gilwell Park, Chingford, London E4 7QW

### COMPETITION RULES AND RESTRICTIONS

Closing date for entries is Thursday 1 October 2009

Feel free to be inventive with the materials you use.

Entries should be square format and flat (so that they can be scanned as artwork)

Entries should be produced by the Scout Group as a whole, not individually.

The Scout Group name, the Scout Leader's name, addresses and telephone number should be included with every entry to the competition. Scout Groups can submit more than one entry.

Entries will only be returned if they are accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope of sufficient value.

Entry to the competition grants free reproduction rights to the Scout Association and Chubb Fire - the winners will be credited.

Winners will be informed by Friday 30 October 2009.



### County Scout Cooking Competition - 22 February

Well done to 1st Ashwell Scouts who were narrowly beaten by three points into 2nd place at the County Scout Cooking Competition. Both the winners, 2nd Ware and the Ashwell team will represent Hertfordshire at the Regional Cooking competition to be held on Sunday 8 March at Shurdington. Good luck.

## Recognising the achievements of our Young People



### Chief Scout's Silver Award

Vishal Handa  
Matthew Reynolds

1st Baldock (Knights)  
1st Baldock (Knights)

**Letchworth and  
Baldock District Scout  
Council A.G.M.**

**Date:** 14 May 2009

**Time:** 7.30 for 8.00 pm

**Venue:** Wymondley Wood  
Scouts and Guide  
Centre

**All are welcome**

**RSVP: Janet Conder  
District Secretary**

### Wymondley Wood - New Rates as at 1 April 2009

	<b>Overnight Each / Minimum</b>	<b>Camping</b>
<b>Inside District</b>	£5 / £125	£2.00
<b>Outside District</b>	£6.75 / £168.75	£3.00
<b>Non Scout / Guide</b>	£8.50 / £212.50	£3.00

Minimum = less than 25 people in the house overnight

A full list of charges is available on the District website. [www.lbdscouts.org.uk](http://www.lbdscouts.org.uk) or from the booking secretary at [wymondleywood.org@hotmail.com](mailto:wymondleywood.org@hotmail.com)

### Training Dates and Modules being held locally by the Hitchin Training Manager

Module		
<b>09 Mar 17</b>	<b>Activities Outdoors</b>	<b>30 Mar 11</b>
<b>11 Mar</b>		<b>1 Apr</b>
<b>16 Mar 7</b>	<b>Valuing Diversity</b>	<b>6 Apr 12</b>
<b>18 Mar</b>		<b>8 Apr</b>
<b>23 Mar 8 &amp; 9</b>	<b>Skills of Leaderships</b>	<b>20 Apr 13</b>
<b>25 Mar</b>	<b>Working With Adults</b>	<b>22 Apr</b>
		<b>Administration</b>
		<b>(Section Leaders)</b>
		<b>Providing a Balance Programme</b>
		<b>Growing the Movement</b>

**Nick Farmer, 56 Westmill Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2SD**  
**[nick.farmer3@ntlworld.com](mailto:nick.farmer3@ntlworld.com) 01462 627673 01462 435409 07887894945**

# DIARY 2009

## MARCH

1	Saracens v Sale Sharks	Vicarage Road
2	Lochearnhead Meeting	Wymondley Wood
7 - 8	Mid Herts Night Hike / Night Jar	
9	District Cub Leaders' Meeting	TBA
12	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
14	County Cub Swimming Gala	St Albans
17	District Scout Leaders' Meeting	TBA
20 - 21	District Gang Show	St Francis Theatre
20 - 22	H.E.A.T - Explorer Scouts	Well End
21	County Bring a Friends Day	Tolmers
28	District Cub Scouts Football Tournament	TBA
30	Wymondley Wood Meeting	107 Spring Road
31	District Scout Shop closes for Easter	

## APRIL

3 - 5	Sixers and Seconders Weekend	Wymondley Wood
9	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
22	Scout and Guide Shop Meeting	Wymondley Wood
23	Scout Shop reopens	
26	St George's Day Parade and Service	Ashwell
27	Wymondley Wood Meeting	Wymondley Wood

## MAY

1	District Fellowship Social 'Kiss me Kate'	Gordon Craig Theatre
1 - 3	PAW (Patrol Activity Weekend)	Phasels Wood
1 - 4	Introduction to the Hills (County Event)	Orchard Farm
8	7th Letchworth AGM	Wilbury Hall
10	County Football 6-a-side Tournament	TBA
14	District AGM	Wymondley Wood
16 and 17	Lochearnhead Training - Herts. Young Mariners Centre	
17	Letchworth Garden City Rotary Annual Charity Walk	Greenway Walk
23	Laurie's Plant Stall	
25	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood

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