

2nd Baldock Scout Group

2nd Baldock Scout Group held their AGM at Wrayfield Farm where their Scouts were camping for the weekend. The hi-light of the evening was Mick Dille being presented with his Silver Acorn by Rikki Harrington, County Commissioner. Rikki surprised Deb Dille by announcing that she had also been awarded the Silver Acorn. A Five Year Service Award and Wood Badge were presented to Stephanie Marshall, ACSL. A Thirty Year Long Service Award to Diana Marshall, CSL and Chief Scout's Awards to one Beaver, two Cubs and three Scouts. Rikki also invested a Scout into the Troop.

Congratulations to one and all.



Wymondley Wood
District Sixers and Seconders Weekend
21 –23 May 2010

The weekend got off to a good start with the District Cub Leaders having a meal with the members of the Wymondley Woods Committee and Councillor Keith Emsall who donated the new cooker and cooker hood at Wymondley Wood. The meal was cooked by Debbie and Graeme from 1st Ashwell, the menu comprised of a traditional South African Lamb Stew and a South African style desert, the food was very good and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

Saturday saw the Cubs arriving at 8:30 am. Having sorted out their kit, they were all kept busy with the days activities of fire lighting, axes and saws, go carts, communications, archery, the rope course and craft bases. The Cubs could choose which activities they would like to do.

Scout Network organised a wide game and due to the weather being hot and sunny – needless to say it was to do with water. All the Cubs had a great time and obviously got very wet.

After the evening meal, the Cubs were taken for a walk following which it was time for the camp fire which the Scout Network very kindly ran for us; once more the Cubs enjoyed this – a big “thank you” to the Scout Network for doing this for us.

After a not so ‘good’ night sleep, saw the Cubs doing a site good turn which was part of their Cubs Own The Cubs were split up into small groups and were asked to collect any rubbish from around the site. Once they had all completed this – we all had a look at what they had found to show them what rubbish is left around the Countryside. This was put to use when the Cubs were put into their Groups and had to write a prayer about their environment.

The time just seemed to go and before we knew it, it was time to pack up and go home.

Everybody had a great time throughout the weekend and all the Cubs went home full of smiles and well fed.

I would like to thank all the Cubs for their good behaviour and making this weekend an extremely enjoyable one. A big “thank you” also goes to all the Leaders, Young Leaders, Parent Helpers, Scout Leaders, Scout Network and, any one else that I have forgotten for their help and hard work over the weekend.

I would also like to thank Debbie and Graeme and their team for keeping us all fed and watered throughout the weekend.

Wendy Tierney
ADC (Cubs)



Fairlands Lake County Cub Water Skills Day

On Sunday my Dad took me to Fairlands Valley Lakes in Stevenage for the County Cub's Water Skills day.

First of all I had to go to passport control to register and get my buoyancy aid. Then I dropped my bag at the bag drop off point and then got my group number. I was in group one.

We had a safety talk from a man called Steve Graham, who was the organiser.

Then I did dragon boating. There were 16 Cubs plus one instructor called Paul in the boat. We went up to the little buoy at the top and then turned round and we headed back to a bigger orange buoy. We were timed. Our first try was 1 minute 50 seconds and our second go was 1 minute 45 seconds .

Then we got out and had a drink.

Then I did canoeing next. I had two other Cubs in my canoe. We had a race to the buoy and we won. Then we had a race to the orange buoy where we had to swap positions so that we got a chance to do every one. When we swapped, the ones in the middle and front had to duck down and the one in the back had to climb over them.

The last thing I did was kayaking. We sat in the kayaks on the bank and were shown how to use the paddles. Then we were pushed nose first into the water. The instructors threw some sponge balls into the water and we had to try and get them to throw them at each other and the instructors. We also played tag in the kayaks.

We got changed out of our wet clothes and into our uniforms for the presentation by the ACC 6 to 14 Bob Cooper.



It was a very good day and I really enjoyed myself. I got a Paddle Power Start certificate and the Water Activities Badge.

Jack
8th Letchworth Cub

Cub Pack Holiday - Eaton Vale 7th and 8th Letchworth Cub Packs

On Sunday 30 May 7th and 8th Letchworth Cubs gathered at the Grange School to go on their camp in Norfolk.

Our Campsite was called Eaton Vale, it looked enormous! After we had been put into our groups, we went off to do our first activities: archery and shooting. Archery was hard work, and in shooting I didn't even shoot one of the targets! Better luck next time! The dinner tonight was absolutely YUMMY, chicken wrapped in bacon with cheese and vegetables.

On Monday we built our own rafts, we dragged them into the water and paddled down the river having a little sing song! This was really exciting and the instructors told us there was an alligator in the river. After lunch we went to do grass sledging, I really enjoyed this, the sledges looked like bulldozers. Next, it was time for the blindfold trail.

Tuesday was Hike day. We travelled in the mini buses to Overstrand. We walked through fields with crops in them, the woods and, saw lots of magnificent scenery.

On Wednesday, we went to the zoo and saw lots of amazing animals like tigers, lions, cheetah, giraffes and penguins. We also went to a bird show called Birds of Prey. We saw a hawk and an eagle and many more brilliant birds. After a while, we went to another show called Amazing Animals and we did see amazing animals! The first animals we saw at the show were RATS!!! Then, we went on the train and sang some Cub Songs. When we got off the train, we went into the shop and I bought a pencil with Banham Zoo on it, for my brother.



On Surprise Thursday, we did some Crate Stacking but the best part was when the instructor pushed the Crates over and we were just hanging. Then, we made some Mini Rafts and Kites. We got in the mini buses and drove to the sea side. We played in the water and sand, we then had fish and chips. After, we tested out our kites. Eventually, we walked round the corner and tried to float our Mini Rafts in the pond.

Friday we packed our bags and swept out our tents. Then, we took down our tents, which was hard work. We sat down and had some lunch and played games. But, finally we got in the mini buses and drove off to the Grange School, we got there and I hugged my parents. That was the end of the most wonderful trip I had ever been on.

The Leaders were very kind and helpful, and I would like to say a big thank you to them all for their hard work

Lauren

A Year in Cubs

By Jack Taplin

Last June I went to Herts 100 at Tolmers. There were lots of activities. The most popular one was laser tag cos there was loads of queues. We got special yellow neckers to wear. There was a cowboy show and a disco with lots of fireworks. Beavers came for the Saturday but Cubs and Scouts stayed for the whole weekend. I was lucky and got to do abseiling which was great fun. There was a carnival and we all dressed up and made lots of noise with our instruments.

In September I went on the District Night Hike. My team was me, Mae and Lauren. We got lost in a cow field but still came third. I got my Map Reader Badge and a Green certificate and a badge.

I went on the District Day Out to Legoland. We went on most of the rides but the new laser ride the queue was too long.

I got my Home Help Badge. I had to sew badges on my camp blanket and had a chart to help at home for two weeks.

I got my Reader Badge for doing the Library Reading Challenge.

At Christmas we had a games night. We had to eat a doughnut without touching it. We had a joint party with the Beavers and Father Christmas came.

In February we had a Group Camp at Wymondley Wood. The Beavers stayed for the Friday night and the Cubs stayed the whole weekend. We made sherbet and tried to trap bugs and we planted seeds. We made bottle rockets and we had a camp fire on both nights.

I will get my DIY Badge soon. I had to make a buzzer game and a key holder.

I also got to be a seconder but now I am Sixer. I didn't go on the Camp as I am doing the Waters Skills Day at Fairlands Lake.

I got my Chief Scouts Silver Award. I was really happy.

Last week we went to Welwyn Garden City dry ski slope and went on the donut rings. It was super fun. The instructors swung you so hard to spin you, you nearly fell out.

This year Cubs has been really great fun. Thank you Akela and the other Leaders.

Jack Taplin - 8th Letchworth Cub Scout



5th Letchworth Scout Troop

5th Letchworth Scout Troop are looking for any unwanted / outgrown walking boots in good condition to increase their stock.

These can be borrowed by young people when going on an expedition.

**Please contact Geoff Smith for further details
Carfax.t21 @btinternet.com**

Notification of Awards (Blue Card)

County will no longer be issuing Blue Cards to record the Chief Scout's Awards.

The District will be introducing a system to replace the blue cards.

A new style card will be given with each badge purchased at the Scout Shop from September.

The card should be completed with the required information and returned to the address at the bottom of the card.

The award will then be recorded in Co-ordinator and then sent to County for their records.

Dave Hawkins
Badge Secretary



Events

Date: Saturday 24 July

Events: Lions Day

Help is needed to run the stall from 10:00 hrs to 14:00 hrs. If you can help please contact Fred Lovelock on 01462 672043.

Date: Sunday 15 August

Venue: 19 Campers Avenue

Event: 'Fred's' garden party

Cost: £5.00 at the gate

Time: 15:00 hrs to 19:00 hrs

Numbers are required to ensure that there is sufficient food and drink. If you intend to join Fred please contact Fred or Sheila as soon as possible

Fred: 01462 672043 Sheila 01462 483738

CRB AND MEMBERSHIP OF SCOUTING ARE BOTH CHANGING

Both will undergo a change by the end of July. CRBs will become electronic – HQ is calling them eCRBs Applications to join Scouting will make everyone into members – either by becoming Occasional Helpers or by taking on a formal appointment – Leader, Assistant Leader or Training Advisor or whatever.

This will mean all *parents* will become members of the Scout Association – it might make some wary. When I meet parents who just want to help, I will explain this new aspect to them as I help them complete the CRB and Application – a new combined Form - but some might 'back away' We will have to wait and see.

A few days from now appointment activities will need to be put 'on hold' HQ will not handle anything after 9 July and I will not be able to use the new electronic system until the 26 July. Once this is up and running, things ought to move faster than before.

Those requests already made to me by leaders are scheduled and I aim to get them in before 9 July.

You might be wondering what happened to Vetting and Barring Scheme – well the new Government has put that all into abeyance whilst they hold a review. More news when I get it – but not for many months I'd guess.

Ron Smith - Appointments Advisory Panel Secretary

Achievements



Chief Scout's Gold Award



Chief Scout's Silver



Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Chris Gray 12th Letchworth Pauan Uaghela 12th Letchworth Thomas Ryan 4th Letchworth
Hannah Steadman 5th Letchworth

The following have been awarded their service awards



Phil Charsley Training Adviser



Nora Hitcham Scout & Guide Shop Manager
Jackie Hare 7th Letchworth ASL



Tim Stroud 5th Letchworth ASL
Paul Tyler 4th Letchworth ASL

Bee - mania !



Did you see our England Jambo-Bees fly their way onto World Cup Mike's slot on Look East on Monday 14 June? Well keep your eyes on Wimbledon as a swarm of Wimble-Bees have found their way to the BBC Wimbledon producer! The County Commissioner Rikki Harrington made the mistake of arriving without his County Bee to 2nd Baldock's AGM and was promptly 'stung' by Vicki Gage into buying two more Bees. Jamboree Explorer Alex Hunt sold £170 of England Bees in two hours at the Lordship School fair well done Alex. The Jambo-Bee fund now stands at £570 with lots more Bees still buzzing around finding new homes. Thank you to all the knitters for keeping up the supplies.

Janet Conder (District Secretary)

DIARY 2010

JULY

2 - 4	District Walking Weekend	Orchard Farm
8	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
11	District Cubs Dragon Boating	Fairland Lake, Stevenage
12	District Cub Leaders Meeting	
13	District Beaver Scout Bangers and Bash	Wymondley Wood
20	District Scout Shop Closes for Summer Break	
24	Lions Day	Letchworth
24 - 8 Aug	CTT (Come to Tolmers)	Tolmers
26	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood

AUGUST

15	Fred's Garden Party - Fellowship Event	19 Campers Avenue
16	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood

SEPTEMBER

9	Scout Shop re -opens	
18 - 19	County Cub Night Hike	Hobbs Hill Wood School



8th Letchworth Scouts have been learning basic kayaking skills over at Fairlands for the last three weeks in preparation for their summer trip to the Brecons and a Wye river trip,

**Letchworth and Baldock District
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