

Co-Ordinator

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts



1st Letchworth Scouts Letchworth Garden City WW2 VE DAY Remembered Festival

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts were invited by Letchworth Arts Group to participate in the WW2 – VE Day Remembered Festival. This was held in the Broadway Gardens over the weekend of 3rd and 4th July 2010.

So which of our groups should we ask to do it? Well I had a bit of a brainwave. Let's reform 1st Letchworth Scouts for 2 days and get them to do it. After all they were about in the war and had taken part in many local activities for the war effort.

To organise something like this requires a little bit of help and did we get it. Frank Brittain from the County Heritage Team provided the majority of the exhibits, 1st Baldock provided a WW2 era Scout handcart, and 12th Letchworth provided the marquee. Janet Conder made 2 replica WW2 Scout uniforms complete with appropriate badges and made the signs for the handcart. Skip Woodward provided lots of material on local Scouts including the badges from the stove of his friend Peter Clarke. Peter had collected them when as a 1st Letchworth Scout he attended the 1937 World Jamboree in Holland. Peter had served in the Navy but was sadly killed on active service.

So very early on Saturday with some difficulty I dragged my son Alex out of bed (Explorers don't do early) and we headed off to the gardens to set up a temporary HQ for 1st Letchworth in which we would hold an exhibition of the contribution made by Scouts during WW2. This would also include some material on local Scouting.

Setting up was quite surreal with American GIs and members of the Home Guard milling around whilst the sounds of Glenn Miller and his Orchestra wafted out of the sound stage speakers.

Then the Scouts arrived and saw their uniforms for the first time. And what a reaction – "oh no not long socks, look at the size of these shorts, what do you mean do the top button up". But surprisingly they were quite taken with the old campaign hats.

Cont'd....

Then the festival opened. The weather was glorious; the gardens were packed with military and civilian vehicles. People in uniforms and civilian clothes of the 1940s. There was music, singing, dancing and various re-enactment groups. Even the Guides and Brownies were there in period costumes. Local groups and societies put on their own exhibitions and staged activities.

The public attended in their thousands over the weekend.

The Scouts took their handcart around the site and were mobbed by people wanting to take photographs of them. Because they were in period costume they were even allowed to sit in the old vehicles

During the day we had a visit from the Fellowships Laurie Cook a former 1/3rd Leader and WW2 Royal Navy veteran. Complete with his medals he really looked the part.

Frank Brittain was ably assisted in the exhibition by Ken Johnson (KJ) who seems to have an encyclopaedic knowledge of local Scouting and people. In fact there was a constant stream of visitors, many of whom had been former Scouts. They clearly enjoyed a reminiscing and chatting about days gone by.

As the first day drew to a close we even had the Network arrive to assist. They were going to spend the night in the marquee to keep everything safe. When I arrived the following morning they had clearly had a bit of a party and George the mannequin who had been wearing a 1940's uniform was now sporting a day-glo Network neckerchief.

Sunday was a repeat of Saturday with glorious weather. Frank and KJ working hard in the exhibition assisted by the DC Chris King.

And then it's all over and despite the hard work you think that was really good fun. More importantly it was a great advert for local Scouting. So thanks to all those who helped and especially the Scouts, Abbie Northover, Jamie Neighbours, Ben Starr, Edwin Stretch, Thomas Hensby and Florence Gorski-Giles.

Gavin Conder ADC (Scouts)



**Scout Network
members with George
the mannequin.**



Message from the District Commissioner

Hi all,

Welcome back to the new term, I hope you have all had a nice relaxing break away from it all and hope even more that some of you managed to find some good weather!

It's been truly Scouting weather all summer – challenging. I was lucky enough to visit two Troops at their summer camps and received a warm welcome from everyone, thank you Leaders, great camps. I am looking forward to more action packed evenings and weekends in the coming months and hope to get to see most of you.

Chris King

5th Letchworth Scout Troop Summer Camp - Barton Turf

5th Letchworth Scout Troop enjoyed a week in July on the Norfolk Broads at Barton Turf.



11th Letchworth Beavers, Cubs and Scouts Circus Skills Evening - Wymondley Wood



On Monday 5 July all of 11th Letchworth Scout group converged on Wymondley Wood for a fun evening of circus skills. Led by Dan Shaw who kindly gave his services and shared his skills with us. Dan has travelled extensively demonstrating his circus skills round the world as well as in schools, festivals and children's parties.

He demonstrated juggling, which he gave us step by step instructions on how to do - some of the Cubs picked it up really quickly and were juggling with three balls in no time. He also showed us poi, devil sticks, plate spinning and other forms of juggling. At the end of each group session he gave a further demonstration and answered the troop's questions including how he became involved and appeared in the video for Sam Sparrow's Black and Gold track.

All in all it was a brilliant night and lots of fun was had by all - thanks to Dan's enthusiasm and the great behaviour shown by all the young people.

Beverley Suttie - SL 11th Letchworth



8th Letchworth Scout Troop

Brecon Beacons

This year for our Scout trip we went to Brecon Beacons in Wales. The best thing was that I am two service stations away from my 'service stations away badge'. I really enjoyed the food and discovered spaghetti hoops and banana angels delight, although I skipped the fruit pie and chocolate custard.

We did some great activities. I really enjoyed the pony trekking, and I liked it when the ponies ran because it felt like you were going to fall off. We also did canoeing which I liked and the wellies were very comfortable especially when full of water (Yuck). We had a great day of digging graves on the beach and in between we did some rock climbing and abseiling. When we got back to the coach there was a cow sitting next to it blocking the door but it moved when we walked towards it.

We also did Dingle Descent but I can't really say much about it as we were blind folded so it could have been anywhere. I was nervous because I thought I was going to fall over. My dad Richard fell over and he wasn't even blind folded.

The night before the hill walk Goody and Claire checked the younger Scout's bags but still one of them managed to slip in a DVD and book. I really liked the hill walk because there was loads of stuff to look at which included a dam. We then started rhyming with the word dam, such as Dan the Dam had a friend called Stan, who took canned jam to a lamb in Japan.

I slept really well while I was there and I didn't worry about falling out of bed because I knew that all Lewis's clothes would break my fall.

Thanks to Richard (my dad), Claire, Leslie, Goody, rock climbing man and canoe guy for making this such a brilliant trip.

Isaac Platten

Day 1

We arrived at Brecon after a long six hours on the mini bus . We played games and had tea. After that we had an orienteering event which was COOL . Night all, tomorrow is another day.

Day 2

Hey all, we all went canoeing today. It was fun but we all got wet after we did Dingle Descent which was being blindfolded walking forward guided by a Leader. Another good day BRING ON TOMMORROW

Day 3

Today we rock climbed the rocks at the beach and abseiled off a cliff. It was scary but it was worth it.

Day 4

Today we got split into two groups, half went down a coal mine, the others went walking up and down the hills. We all had lots of fun thank you Leaders.

Day 5

Today we went round Brecon and bought gifts. After we went pony trekking. It was fun, we even walked through a river with them it was cool.

Day 6

Today has been another fun day. Half went mountain biking and the others climbed the tallest mountain in the Brecon Beacons it was so fun BYE : - }

Jay



1st Baldock Scout Group 2 - 4 July 2010

Group Camp Review - Wymondley Wood

On the Friday night before camp I was very excited, looking forward to the camp's activities and events. When the time finally came for me to leave my house and go to the scout hut I realized how many bags my brother and I had between us to fit in our boot. We finally got everything to fit and off we went. We got to the hut at 6, perfect timing!, we then had to move all of the camp stuff from the scout hut to the path so when the van arrived it would be quicker to load. Luckily the tents were already at Wymondley Woods so there was nothing too heavy to move! When the van was mostly packed my brother and I got in the car and off to Wymondley Woods we went. I was so excited but also wondering what the next couple of days would hold. When we arrived we parked in the lower car park and had to carry all our bags up to the top. At the top we had to carry our bags over to the far side of the field where we then started pitching our tents.

We put poles in and everything and stood the tent up battling the wind but between our group of four we had all forgotten to put the dollies on the top and none of us could reach so down the tent went battling the wind again and the dollies were put on. Everything else was easy from then on until we tried to put the pegs in the ground. It hadn't rained for weeks so the ground was rock solid. It was almost impossible to hit the pegs in to the ground but some how we all managed to get our pegs in, with a few broken mallets and pegs. The worst thing was while we were working hard putting up the tents the Cubs had been up the night before and put up their tents. They were now playing a wide game in the woods, lucky things!

By the time everyone's tent and food shelter had been put up and we had settled in it was starting to get dark and we went over to the house where the Cubs were waiting for us. Baloo gave us a speech welcoming us to camp and we then had some welcoming fireworks and then we went to bed.

I woke about 6.00 am surprisingly fresh considering we had gone to bed quite late and had been uncomfortable a lot of the night, finding random stones in the tent under my role mat. It was another boiling hot day. By 6.30 most tents had at least one head sticking out the bottom of them wondering what was going on and who else was awake. That's when we started to cook breakfast well Helen and I did anyway, Mila and Imogen were still sound asleep so we left them to it. It was when I was about halfway through cooking the sausages that Mila and Imogen finally emerged looking still quite sleepy but they made up their sleeping with some excellent cooking of bacon and beans. We quickly washed up and Helen and I got changed as we were still in our PJs but not thinking we had already rolled up the sides and doors to air the tent so we had to get changed in the toilet. We also put on lots of sun cream because it was very sunny and we would be outside all day. After everyone had got changed and had eaten we went over to the flag where the Cubs were waiting for us again. We then did flag break and we had the rules and then the fun began.....

We split off in to groups with about four Scouts, three Cubs and three Beavers. We then got told which activities we would go to first, rounders for us, and which way round we would go, anticlockwise for us, we then went to our station. We went to the middle of the field where we would be playing rounders. We met another team over there that we would be playing rounders against we batted first and we got some good runs and then fielded and we held some good catches and then we batted and then fielded again and in the end we won. We then had break because even after just an hour in the heat everyone was already very thirsty. So off to the house we went where the amazing cooks for the weekend had got everyone cups of squash and laid out an arrangement of cakes, of course, to keep our energy up. Once every one had finished eating and drinking I got my team together and we went to our next station, cooking. There we met another team we mixed our teams and down to the woods to collect some sticks. Once we had collected enough sticks we took them back up to the field where half our group started to make the fires to cook on and the other half, including me, started making the dough to make bread sausages.

We mixed it all up in to a very sticky mixture and then had to get our hands in there and roll it in to bread sausages ,so we could rap it round a stick, so of course me, being me, stick my hands in the bowl of *very sticky mixture* without putting any flour on my hands whatsoever. So of course it glues itself to my hand. I think I ended up with more dough stuck on my hands than there was in the bowl, but the worst thing was I then couldn't get it off and spent about 10 minutes instead of making bread sausages trying to get this dough off my hands. Even the Beavers did a better job than I did! When I had finally got most of the dough off the fires were just about ready and there were enough bread sausages to feed a king (all thanks to me of course). We then cooked our bread sausages over the fires and that went well minus a few burns. They tasted great especially with jam dribbled on top. If we wanted after we had cooked and eaten our bread sausages we could have a couple of marshmallows to toast over the fire.

Next was lunch !YHEY! For lunch there were sandwiches- tuna, ham or cheese. Next activity was shooting.. Shooting was very fun. To start I wasn't very good with a bad score of two but then I got better and overall I got 33 in 5 shots which isn't bad considering the winner was a Cub with 38. After shooting we went on the obstacle course which was quite boring until they tied us in pairs and we had to do the obstacle course which was going well until we got to the stairs where Helen fell off and because I was tied next to her of course that meant I fell off on top of her, luckily there were no injuries and we won the race in the end. After everyone had done the obstacle we had another drink stop and some more cake (of course). Next it was off to pioneering where we made a catapult and a balister. Pioneering was surprisingly fun if you think all we were doing was tying wood together. We then had a great game of tug of war and then a delicious barbeque.

We then got ready for a wide game prepared by Chris Page, which was great fun. We then had a campfire run by David and Chris. It was very good with a mix of good singing and fun. We then went to bed.

Sunday morning everyone was very tired. Unlike yesterday we had to be woken up about 7.00 am and quickly make our breakfast because we had to be up and dressed by 7.45 am for Scouts Own. After wolfing down our breakfast we ran over to the hut where the Chaplin was giving a talk about what he did. After the talk we went back and started to take our tents down. We worked very well as a team and we had put both our tents down before some people had even finished breakfast.

We then got ready for a game. We got teams of about eight and we all got tied to a long log and we had to go around and find pieces of cutlery the game was good but it just happened that the group I got didn't know the meaning of teamwork with some rushing ahead, some dawdling behind and some in the middle getting pulled around. As you might expect it was very hard work and by the time we found the first piece other teams had finished but in the end we finished it. After that we helped everyone else take down their tents and had lunch. Then it was time to go home.

Overall a GREAT camp!!!!

LOUISE BAXTER



District Fellowship soon to be renamed Scout Active Support (SAS)



After a lot of hard work getting all the bits and pieces together and sorting and sticking the tickets on the items for the £ stall. The Fellowship went to the Letchworth and Baldock Lions Fun Day. Busy having fun and raising funds by manning the £ tombola stall. Sheila had a cuddly Hippopotamus that wanted a name (50p a go), Overall the team managed to sell everything and raised £130. Well done to the team.

Between them they have chalked up over 150 years of service to Scouting.



Bee-Zarre



Bee sales went mad in July taking us to a total of £1,003! Thank you to everybody who has bought a bee. In particular a big thanks to 1st Baldock Knight's Cubs who are really using their imaginations to order some really bee-zarre bees to support their Jamboree Scout Adam. From Luke Skywalker Bee to Thomas the Tank Bee. The District's leaders are equally as imaginative with special orders of a frisbee and herbee, a Zombee and a Beekini amongst many others! Special bees with accessories can be knitted to order for a minimum donation of £2.

The Wimblebees made it onto National TV when a Wimbledon camera zoomed in on Anne Gutteridge's bee laden hat as she watched a match!

At the Lions day in July ADC Beavers Vicki managed to sell all the 70 bees in stock in an hour!

Bees will continue for as long as the orders keep coming. Watch out for Hallob'eens, Rugbees and Christmas Tree Beebles still to come!

**Janet Conder District Secretary
(or as referred to by a 1st Baldock Cub - 'that Bee Woman')**

Fund Raising

At the recent Lions Day in July held at the Broadway Gardens the following groups raised much needed funds.

11th Letchworth Scout Group	£270
District - Soft Toy Tombola	£ 93
District - Jambo bees	£ 70 sold out in a hour
Scout Active Support	£130

**Beeometer now
at £1003**

Thanks to everybody who donated their lonely cuddly toys. They were all re-homed at the Lions Day.



The District Fellowship held their annual Garden Party in Fred Lovelock's garden. The weather held and all enjoyed a good afternoon of food, drinks, fun and catching up on the gossip. Twenty Nine members attend the event and together raised £200 towards the Fellowship funds.



8th Letchworth held a Bag2School collection in July. We collected 300 kg of clothes, shoes and soft toys for re-use and raised £120 for the group.

I would like thank everyone for their support and we have another collection booked in December.

**Tracey Warren
8th Letchworth Secretary**

Information and Future Events

GANG SHOW

The theatre has been booked for next year's Gang Show - 18 and 19 March 2011 - remember the date and support the District Gang Show.

2011 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

For 2011 The Scout Association Subscription will be £20.25 per member.

The County and District Subscription Fee will be agreed later in the year.

LETCWORTH ROTARY WALK

The date has been set for the 2011 Letchworth Garden City Walk - Sunday 15 May 2011. This is a good fund raising opportunity.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The Letchworth Free Church will be holding their annual Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday 11 December 2010.

New Roles

Simon Tierney has taken on the administration of the District Mini Bus and Wendy Tierney has taken on the role of booking secretary for the District HQ.

Their details can be found in the District Directory.

Charity Factsheet

Factsheets to bring Scout Accounts into line with the latest Charity Commission legal requirements can be downloaded from The Scout Association website.

FACTSHEET LT103950

District Cub Bell Boat Competition Fairlands Lake—Stevenage



Well done to 5th Letchworth Cubs on winning the annual District Bell Boat Competition held on Fairlands Valley Lake in July.



1st Baldock (Knights) Cubs and 2nd Baldock Cubs enjoyed a weekend Camp at Harmer Green.

Jim Morley



We were sorry to hear the sad news of Jim's death. He was a stalwart of Scouting in the 1970s and 80s. As a member of the 8th Letchworth Scout Group Executive he was instrumental in the erection of their first wooden headquarters building in the grounds of Grange School. He served on the District Executive and was involved in the early development of Norton Bury Scout and Guide Activity Centre where his fund raising skills were much appreciated.

We send our deepest sympathy to Vera and her family.

Thank you to the Baldock Rotary Club for their generous grant of £500 each to Adam Lunnon (1st Baldock Scout) and George Budd (2nd Baldock Scout) towards the cost of their participation at the 22nd World Jamboree in Sweden to be held in 2011.

Chief Scout's Gold Award for 1st Ashwell

On Monday 12 July 2010 I was asked to visit 1st Ashwell Scouts and present Daniel Maynard with his Chief Scout's Gold Award. Before I did this I asked for details of what Daniel had done to earn the award. When I got the reply which was full of camps, expeditions, activity and challenge badges as well as other things too numerous to mention, I thought I had been sent a list of what the whole troop had done not just one Scout.

I also checked to see when the last CSGA was made to an Ashwell Scout. I could not find any record of one as far back as 2003. If anybody knows when it last happened please drop me a line.

So why am I highlighting a particular CSGA? I am sure that everyone realise that to earn this award a Scout needs in addition to their own hard work, support from their family, from the friends in Scouting, from the Scout Group and from enthusiastic and capable leaders. Daniel is a lucky Scout and has this.

I wonder if Phil George and Simon Lambourne realised how much the Scout troop would grow when they started as leaders about 5 years ago and revitalised the troop. You now have a strong and happy Scout troop at Ashwell and the future looks bright.

Talking of the future. Congratulations once again Daniel. However you have a number of other Scouts catching you up and are only one or two challenge badges away from their CSGA, so I know that it won't be long till we present another one.

So who is going to be the first Ashwell Scout from the present generation to receive a Chief Scout's Platinum or Diamond Award? Or may be even a coveted Queen's Scout Award. I certainly wouldn't bet against it being Daniel.



Gavin
ADC Scouts



A warm welcome to

Hollie Marsh	ACSL	11th Letchworth
Ross Taylor	ACSL	8th Letchworth
Claire Winchester	ASL	12th Letchworth

Achievements

Chief Scout's Bronze Award



Marcus Allerton	1st Baldock
Alex Beevor	12th Letchworth
Rhys Belcher	12th Letchworth
Adam Caine	1st Baldock
Danny Henderson	12th Letchworth
Katherine Lowrie	1st Baldock
Tristan Rodway	12th Letchworth
Kent Sagers	1st Baldock
Brooke Tasker	8th Letchworth
Jack Toombs	8th Letchworth

Chief Scout's Silver Award



Matthew Cladwell	1st Baldock (Knights)
William Hall	1st Baldock (Knights)
Thomas Holford	1st Baldock (Knights)
Matthew Inman	1st Baldock (Knights)
Connor O'Neill	1st Baldock (Knights)
Laurence Rushbrook	1st Baldock (Knights)
Joseph Sell	1st Baldock (Knights)

Congratulations to

Eric 'Skip' Woodward, 1st Baldock on being awarded the Award of Merit for Outstanding Service.



Nora Hitcham, Scout and Guide Shop Manager on being awarded the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service.



Congratulations to

Diana Marshall

CSL 2nd Baldock



DIARY 2010

SEPTEMBER

9	Scout Shop re -opens	
10	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
18	District Fellowship - Beetle Drive	8th Letchworth HQ
19	District Sports Day	Wymondley Wood
18 - 19	County Cub Night Hike	Hobbs Hill Wood School
25	County Beaver Day	Paradise Wildlife Park
27	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood
29	District Team Meeting	Wymondley Wood

OCTOBER

1 - 3	County Scout Event - Born 2B Challenged	Harmer Green
10	County Beaver / Cub Cyclo Cross	Well End
13	District Guide & Scout Shop AGM	Wymondley Wood
14	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
15 - 17	County Peak Assault	TBA
16	District Scout Fellowship AGM	8th Letchworth
17	DC / GSL Regional Meeting	Stansted
25	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood

NOVEMBER

11	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
19 - 21	County Scout Green Beret	
29	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood

DECEMBER

4	District Fellowship Christmas Dinner	The Howard Centre
9	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
11	Christmas Tree Festival	The Letchworth Free Church

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**Thomas the
Tank Bee**