

Co-Ordinator

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

Hello and Merry Christmas to you all.

Did anyone see where 2010 went? I really find it hard to believe we are now reaching towards the end of another year of non stop fun, activities, competitions and badge gaining. As we enter the time of Christmas fayres and parties it is time once again to say a huge thank you all for all you have done for Scouting this year, whether it be leading, helping or taking part, there truly has been some terrific Scouting delivered by the hard working Leaders of the District.

Time to relax, time to spend with the family and time to reflect on the highs (lots of them) and lows (hopefully not many of these) whilst you while away the peaceful hours over the yuletide break.

Lets us take some time to remember all the Young People and Leaders who have left the District over the year, remember their fun, remember their friendship and especially remember what they all brought to Scouting over their time with us.

I hope you all have an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas and a great New Year and look forward to seeing you all in the not to distant future as we take Scouting into 2011 and beyond. You need to keep focused because looming over the horizon for 2012 are the Olympics and Lochearnhead, that is going to be some year

Chris King D.C



Two Mile Bottom Campsite 12th Letchworth Scouts

In October about a dozen Scouts from 12th Letchworth Scouts went to Two Mile bottom campsite in Thetford Forest. It took us an hour to get there from Letchworth in a mini bus.

When we got there the tents were already up for us – thanks Leaders- but it was hard to get to sleep because we had a train line right next to the tent and Will kept talking to us all night.

My patrol was quite good. The first thing we did was rock climbing even though the rock climbing gave me a wedgie! Then we did crating. It's when you have two people on a stack of crates and see how high you can get. I got up to 13 ½ crates but I fell off first Thomas fell because I kicked it down .

After that we went in to town and went to a fish and chip restaurant. It was very nice. We went back and had hot chocolate in front of a camp fire, then we played hide and seek. I was hiding behind a tree and put my hand on a pile of stinging nettles. After that we went and sung songs around the camp fire then we went to sleep. The next morning our patrol had to cook. Then we broke camp and went back home.

By Brendan Hunt



Back in October, we went on a weekend camp to Thetford Forest. On the long journey there we sang lots of songs and chatted to each other. There was lots of room in the minibus. When we arrived we were relieved to find that we didn't need to set up our tents in the dark because luckily Matthew had been there earlier and set them up.

After a delicious mug of hot chocolate we got ready for bed and with four of us in each tent we were warm even though it was a cold night. During the night we heard the rumbling of trains passing about ten metres from the camp. In the morning we got ready for our morning activities which were rock climbing, very hard and agonisingly painful and, after we had our lunch, we did crating. This is when you work in teams stacking crates, standing on them without falling, to build the highest tower to beat the team's record. My team did rather well but we did not beat the record. As well as doing activities we had lots of time to explore the forest and camp. During the camp my group had to cook breakfast one morning and lunch on the Saturday- both of which I have never done before.

On Sunday morning we went on a long hike through the forest. It was a very long walk and my feet were burning by the end. My throat was also sore from singing campfire songs at the top of our voices. Luckily we didn't see many other people but we also scared away any wildlife.

By William Smith

It was such fun. When got there it was dark so my first job was to find my head torch. Then we got our bags off the mini bus and put them in our tents. After settling in to our tents we got some wood from the wood pile and we built a camp fire. After all the kerfuffle of getting in to our sleeping bags we went to sleep, no surprise there! In the morning we got up, had our breakfast and went to the climbing wall. After that the younger ones, me, Jamie, Will, Brendon, Thomas, Ben and Alec all went back to camp to prepare lunch. Clare came to camp with us also Steve came to see us. Then we went crating Ben and Alec got the highest. Then we went back to camp to get ready to go to the fish and chip shop. After that we went back to camp and went to sleep. In the morning I got up and cooked breakfast. After breakfast we went for a walk. I didn't really like it but I don't like walking very much. Then we had lunch and went home. We went past RAF Lakenheath, then we were home.

By Jamie Neighbours

Two Mile Bottom is a great camp site and it's set in Thetford Forest, Norfolk. It's very long so you can let kids run around. There are a lot of activities you can do, like canoeing, rock climbing, crating and many more. Crating is great fun, what you do is you and a partner are on a harness and you have to pile up crates while on top of them. The record is 22 crates on top of each other with two young people at the top. There is also a river where we saw some swans. You can canoe down it but we did not this time. There is a bridge over the river which we crossed and did some exploring. I would recommend that Scouts go to Two Mile Bottom Camp Site but be prepared for a long journey as it took us two hours to get home.

By Alec Burchell



Joining 12th Letchworth Scouts for a weekend at the '2 Mile Bottom' Scout Campsite in the heart of Thetford Forest, I was hoping for a quiet weekend in the woods. O how I was wrong. All day Friday while setting up camp US fighter jets were flying over head, but this was just the start. Later that evening there was a noisy mini bus ride full of excited Scouts, and that noise continued almost non stop all weekend.

Very, very early Saturday morning we all woke to a freight train thundering along the train line that was 10 meters from our tents. Later waking up properly at a reasonable time (7 am) for camp and after breakfast, we took the Scouts climbing up a surprisingly diverse challenging wall, which most the Scouts succeeded in conquering. After lunch that had the background noise of the nearby artillery range being used, the Scouts had a rather amusing crate stacking session. Contra to the rest of the weekend the Scouts were rather quiet when we went out to a fish and chip restaurant for our evening meal, but as soon as we got back to site for our campfire the noise and singing erupted again.

Sunday morning was a lovely day and the Scouts went for a short walk around the woods. They almost got lost, taking a wrong turn at the 2nd tree on the right by the field with the ponies instead of the one with the horses in. They returned to camp for lunch and to pack down camp. Just as the camp started it finished with a mini bus full of excited singing Scouts.

Matthew Hart

Remembrance Sunday



5th Letchworth Scouts had a visit on Wednesday before the parade, from Major Douglas Rule.

He arrived in uniform and explained to The Troop why he felt it important to continue with this Parade. Some of the facts he shared with the Scouts came as a surprise to them.

It was impressive how many showed a real interest and knowledge of our history in the last 100 years. The visit certainly had the effect that the

Leaders hoped for. The Troop had a full turn out on Sunday. With large numbers of Beavers and Cubs, 5th must have been one of the largest Group attendances



Wendy Tierney ADC (Cubs) with 5th Letchworth Cub and Scout and a Cub form 8h Letchworth



Arthur Scott - Fellowship Treasurer, Wesley Tierney - Ex 1st 3rd Letchworth Scout with a member of the Royal British Region.

District Fellowship

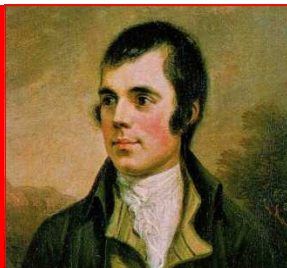
Event: Burns Night Dinner

Date: Saturday 29 January 2011

Cost: £8.00 per head

The cost will include a glass of wine and a dram of whisky for toasting the haggis.

If you are interested in coming please contact Fred Lovelock on fredlovelock@msn.com



Drayton Manor District Cub Scout Day Out

On 17 October I went for a day out at Drayton Manor with some of the Letchworth Cubs. From 11th there weren't a lot of Cubs but we still had fun.

The day started at 8:15 when we caught the coach in Letchworth town centre and we arrived about 2 hours later at 10:30. We got off the coach and went and got in to our pack group and set off. Our pack went on Shockwave, Splash Canyon, G force and Storm Force 10. Some of us went on Apocalypse, The Bounty and Haunted House. My favourite was G-Force because on the loop you go on, it is really scary because you go very slow and put all your weight on the safety bar. Everyone who went on Storm Force 10 got really wet and were still wet on the trip home. We got back at about 6 pm **VERY TIRED**.

We all had a great time and would not have been able to go without our Leaders and volunteers to take us.

I am looking forward to our next Cubs adventure!

Freddie War - 11th Letchworth Cubs

Where has your JamboBee Beeeeee?

Not content with Denmark and Sweden some intrepid Jambo Bees hitched a lift with Anne Gutteridge on her travels around China and Korea recently! A couple have stayed behind with Annes Tour Guides.

William breaks out in Hives!

With over 1,400 bees having been adopted around the District it's no surprise that some people have re-homed more than one. However William Hall from 1st Baldock Cubs (Knights) has adopted so many he has his own swarm. In recognition of his support to the Jamboree Appeal, on Tuesday 23 November Gavin Conder ADC (Scouts) thanked him and presented him with a knitted Hive to keep his Bees in. Well done William and thank you.

4th Letchworth Scouts join the BEEZARRE club.

Whilst there has been no let up in the mad orders from 1st Baldock Knights, including Batman and Robin, Mario characters, and the entire cast of Star wars and Harry Potter, 4th Letchworth



Scouts have taken the 'Bee' theme to a new level. Any word they can think of with a 'Bee' sound in it and they've ordered a Bee. We've had to knit Bambee, Barbee, Bar-Bee-Cue, Boobee, Zombee, Babee, Scoobee, Beetle, Herbee, Rubee, Beetroot, Tubbee, Robbee, Barnabee, Maybee, Bee Prepared, Bee Hive, Bee M W, Beeast, Baked Been, Hornbee! Possibly my fault as I did say there was one 'Bee' sounding Bee I didn't want to knit so they've been trying to guess it. Sorry guys you're gonna kick yourselves it was a 'Wallabee'!

For the sanity of the knitters Jambo-bees are off to hibernate now thanks for all your support.

Harmer Green - Backwoods Camp

8th Letchworth Scouts

We went to Harmer Green Backwoods Camp from the 22nd -24th October. When I got there, it was dark and we had to drive through a forest to get to the actual site and it looked really eerie in the dark. We had to put up our tents in the dark which was quite hard and our group took a while to put ours up, but we did it in the end! A friend and I checked out the toilet block, and to our dismay we found NO lights and NO hot water!

We thought we might be lucky with the weather, and at 11 pm it looked promising, but as usual the weather turned against us in the night and we had torrential rain right through the early hours of the morning.

When we got up, we had to help collect, chop and cut wood to put on the fire. We tried a new method of cooking eggs in half an orange skin. I didn't like mine though because it tasted like a weird mixture in between the two and orange and egg CERTAINLY doesn't go together! We had three dining shelters for all of the Scouts, and at the beginning of the weekend our group's shelter was slightly muddy, but by Sunday we had to block off one entrance because it was so muddy! Throughout the day we carried on collecting firewood, while Peter and Andrew helped us build our bivvys (biverwacks). They were made of tarpaulin, rope and bin liner and I sincerely hoped they lasted through the night, as we would have to be sleeping in them. Some of us played 50/50 in the surrounding forest which was fun, even though it had started raining again!

Before we went to bed, we played a version of Britain's Got Talent and James got kept flashing his torch on and off, while moving closer and closer, which was very funny!

I tried sleeping in the bivvy with just my survival bag, but after accidentally ripping the 'door' off the bivvy while getting out of it, I could not last without my sleeping bag, so after only surviving for ten minutes, I think it is what you could call an epic fail!

In the morning we had to take down our bivvys and tents. By then we were all glad to go home and sleep in a proper bed. However, the camp was very enjoyable, and my favourite part was probably playing 50/50 in the forest, or sitting in the bivvy with Francesca and Rachel and whittling a stick.

By Ellen

Wendover Woods - Orienteering

8th Letchworth Scouts

Wendover Woods was brill. It was cool. One of the checkpoints there was up the steepest hill but we still got to the checkpoint.

We then all went to the park and played a game using logs to get across the mud. Jack fell in (shame).

Well that's it. Wait! Russell's group found a couple in the woods but I won't tell you about them.

Harmer Green 5th Letchworth Scouts

This was my first Harmergreen camp with the famous 5th Letchworth Scouts.

I was very excited and my adventure began when we arrived at the campsite in the woods where we pitched our patrol tents and started a camp fire. We then had soup, bread rolls and fruit and before long it was time for bed.

The next day Bradley and me woke early and began to restart the campfire. When everyone was awake we began to cook our breakfast of sausages, bacon and egg bread. Afterwards the duty patrol cleared up the breakfast things, the rest of the troop went exploring in the woods. Ben, Hayley, the two Williams and Ruth made a tree swing. In the meantime our Leaders had set up three tables each with knives and bags containing fish! We then learnt how to gut and cook the fish, it was a little disturbing to do the gutting but when I had cooked my fish it was very tasty, yum! Afterwards we played 50:50 in the woods in the dark. Then Richard came and told us scary stories round the campfire until it was bedtime.

On our third and final day the first thing we did was clear out our tents and break camp. We then played a really cool game called egg frisbee! Followed by flag break and home.

Thank you very much to all my Leaders. It was a great camp. I got to chop wood and cook on a campfire and play wide games in the woods. It was fantastic!

Jack Morgan 5th Letchworth Scout

Born 2B Challenged 5th Letchworth Scouts

Born 2 B Challenged was my first camp with 5th Letchworth Scouts. It was held at Harmergreen at the beginning of October.

The night we all arrived it was pouring with rain which hardly stopped all weekend! On our first night we had to put up our own tents in the dark with a little help from our Leader Tim. Everyone and everything was soaking.

Our Patrol was called 'Tiny but Mighty' and consisted of Ruth (our Patrol Leader), Tom (our APL), Katherine and myself. Our challenge was to survive by ourselves throughout the weekend whilst doing various tasks like cooking, cleaning and tidying up our dining shelter and tents. This wasn't easy due to the fact that everything was really muddy.



Although the weather was rubbish we all managed to have great fun and were delighted when we won 'Best Patrol'!

I'm really glad that I took part in 'Born 2 B Challenged' and look forward to my next camp with 5th Letchworth Scouts.

Richard Galbraith - 5th Letchworth Scout



22ND WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE SWEDEN 2011 **UNITED KINGDOM**

World Jamboree Update

A huge thank you to the following for their donations and support for our Jamboree appeal;-

Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation– donation of £900

Rotary Club of Letchworth– donation of £300

Rotary Club of Letchworth Howard– donation of £50

Tax Assist Accountants– donation of £50

The Arena Tavern– making us their nominated charity– collection boxes on the bar!

Concept Windows and Conservatories– collection box on display.

You may have heard (or smelt) that William ‘Larry’ Smith and 5th Letchworth have been raising funds by delivering Horse Manure around the District raising in excess of £300. Well done! Thanks go to Larry the horse for all his hard work!

With only one payment left to make in February, our Jamboree Scouts have been concentrating on their contingent training and events including camps and trips to London.

Jambo Bees will be going into hibernation at Christmas. A huge thank you to everybody who has supported this venture. If all the bees buzzing around the District find homes we they will have raised approximately £1,500. £1,000 has already been allocated to the Scouts’ payments.

If you have not yet paid in your Bee money please send it to Janet Conder District Secretary by 15 December.

Group Bees can continue to be worn on woggles until end August 2011.

Thank you to our nutty knitters Heather Waters, Barbara Bitmead, Evelyn Goodwin, Barbara Crombie, Ann Lilley, Mrs Hartley , Pearl, Tracey Warren , Friends of 1st Baldock and Anne Gutteridge.

**8th Letchworth Scout Group - Harmergreen Backwood Camp ,
Wendover Orienteering, and Remembrance Sunday**



Where There's Muck, There's Money ! !

This is what William Smith of 5th Letchworth was encouraged to believe by his Scout Leaders. William has to raise a bit more than the others on his own account, to fund his trip to the World Jamboree next year, because he was lucky enough to get an 'extra' place that came available.

Quite how the crazy idea of selling horse manure came about does not matter, what mattered, William was told is 'Branding'. This is not pressing a hot iron on to leather or a horse's flank, but the sort of branding that marketing executives talk about.

Thus "Larry" was born !

With a lot of help and a BIG EFFORT by Larry, William got this amazing result :

- 280 sacks were sold
- Each sack weighed between 20-25 gk
- Add one and a half trailer loads
- A total of some SEVEN AND A HALF TONNES of Larry !
- Each sacked had to be filled/lifted into the trailer/ lifted out on delivery
- So about 18 tonnes of lifting !
- Sales of Larry added well over £300 to William's funds
- William found that all his training for rugby gave him the strength to help do this !

William wants to thank Explorer Scouts Andrew Laing and Sam Nobbs and fellow Scout Ben Milligan who helped fill and deliver Larry. Leaders who helped produce the advertisement and get it printed. Nick Howell and Geoff Smith who towed the trailer many miles round Letchworth, Baldock and Hitchin to deliver and, of course, all the Customers, mostly from the Scouting

community who bought Larry.

Finally Star of the Show Larry himself and Paul his owner (a Cub Leader in Hitchin)

Everyone we spoke with thought it was a fun and original idea

We met lots of kind people willing to help William

We saw some lovely gardens, both large and small

We had a lot of Fun and got very Fit ! !



Geoff Smith

A warm welcome to



Anthony Brown	AESL	Oak Eagle
Catharine Gregory	ACSL	5th Letchworth
Colin Ridgeway-Cole	ACSL	5th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Nicholas Dyne	1st Baldock (Tuesday)
Rachel Goward	1st Baldock (Tuesday)
Oliver McCrae	4th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Gold Award

Miles Almond	1st Baldock (Knights)
Kimberley Stevens	7th Letchworth

The above will shortly receive a card from County congratulating them on their achievement in gaining their Chief Scout's Award. Leaders please remember to inform Dave Hawkins of any Chief Scout's Awards using the District Blue Card with the recipients address on the reserve of the card.

Training - PLPs Evenings

The District Training Administrator, Simon Tierney, has arranged the following Personal Learning Plans (PLPs) evenings to be held at the District HQ. They will be from 18:30 hrs to 20:00 hrs

2011

11	January	15	February
12	January	23	February
26	January	23	March

Congratulations to 5th Letchworth Scouts 'Tiny but Mighty' on attending the County Born 2B Challenged Competition and winning Best Patrol

The Scouts had to contend with torrential rain both Friday and Saturday night and the programme had to be tweaked slightly to accommodate lighting fires while paddling in puddles. .

As always 5th Letchworth Scouts rose to the challenge.

Once again congratulations.

DIARY 2010/2011

DECEMBER

4	Fellowship Christmas Dinner	Guide HQ
5	Special Needs Training (Leaders)	District HQ
6	County Explorer Meal 'Aroma'	Stevenage
6	Fellowship Book Club 14:30 - 16:00	116 Icknield Way
9	District Executive Meeting	District HQ
11	Christmas Tree Festival	The Letchworth Free Church
16	Scout & Guide Shop Closes for Christmas	

JANUARY 2011

11	Scout & Guide Shop re - opens	
13	District Executive Meeting	District HQ
19	District Team Meeting	District HQ
29	Scout Active Support 'Burns Night'	Guide HQ, Icknield Way
31	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood

FEBRUARY

6	District Scout Cooking Competition	District HQ
7	SAS Book Club 14:30 - 16:00	116 Icknield Way
10	District Executive Meeting	District HQ
12 - 13	Sleepover Weekend (Beavers) to celebrate	the 25th birthday of Beavers
20	County Scout Cooking Competition	Stevenage HQ



Ernie Noble, former Scout Master with the 1st Baldock Scout Group passed way at the age of 96. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.

Green Beret

Well done to 4th Letchworth, 5th Letchworth, 7th Letchworth and 8th Letchworth Scouts who took part in this year's County Green Beret Competition at Phasels Wood. The highest placed group was 4th Letchworth coming 66th out of 112 competing teams.

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Well done 11th Letchworth Scout Group who held a Chocolate Tombola and street collection on Saturday 27 November in Letchworth town centre. They raised £303.

"It was nice to see our Scout Balloons being carried everywhere around town". said the Group Treasurer

Green Beret

We arrived at the Gilwell campsite around 8:30pm and well... to say the least it was very wet, very windy and very cold. We were lucky, our Leaders had put our tents up a few hours before and we quickly settled in by meeting some new Scouts from 7th Letchworth who were camped next to us. Soon after we turned in for the night – except we didn't get a very good nights sleep, and we all know why? As we tried to sleep through the horrendous gale and torrential rain our tent doors flew open not once, not twice but three times as our Leaders appear to need lessons in erecting tents! (Sam – did you look round the site and see how many other tents were blown right over ? cheeky devil ! Geoff)

Anyway after drying ourselves off, the next day dawned bright and early. We soon learned we were doing the assault course at 8:30am – there went the lie-in After our hearty cooked breakfast, we set off for the much dreaded assault course, the thing we normally fail at. We arrived at the beginning of the assault course only to find a large white mess tent among the trees – certainly not an everyday thing. We did fairly well in the assault course finishing 8th. We returned back to camp in high spirits after learning our neighbours 7th hadn't done any bases or the assault course, or the orienteering. Then it was back to camp for a lunch of burgers and soup and then onto to the day bases. By 4:30pm we had returned to camp after doing 15 bases out of which the 10 top scoring ones were counted for the competition.

As night drew in we headed off for the night bases. Instead of risking pneumonia as the weather had not improved, we opted to stay warm and dry and do mainly quizzes in the large marquee. What a big mistake...although we had great fun in the network base with bat out of hell (Meatloaf) in our ears, even with our combined brain power we were rubbish at answering the questions.

After that we decided to call it a night and went back to the campsite and straight to bed at a much too early time of 10:30pm. We woke the next morning and after a rather nice lie-in, we got up, had some breakfast and started to put the tents away. At 11.30am we went to the closing ceremony where the awards were given out...little did we know that we had come 7th in the competition which entitles us to a place in the Green Beret Hall of Fame! Not only did we come in the all important GB top ten but we also came first in our District!

**By Samuel Nobbs, Team Patrol Leader
(you know, the team that came 7th !!) 5th
Letchworth Scouts**

Historical Footnote

Not only was Sam accompanied by his younger sister Freya in the team that did so well, the family connection goes back much further. Their Great Grandfather went to Gilwell in the very early days of Scouting to take his Woodman's badge to become a Leader. Quite a family record !

GHS

Dear 5th Letchworth A team,

Many congratulations to all involved in your success at the memorable 26th Green Beret competition - undoubtedly one of the more exciting of the series!

You cannot appear in the top 10 without having a really good grounding in outdoor skills, which comes from a combination of excellent Leaders and excellent Scouts, leading to excellent teamwork where it counts - very much what Scouting is all about.

Rikki - County Commissioner

Message from District Commissioner

Another year nearly gone, but where?

First of all and most importantly congratulations to all of our teams who took part in the recent rain and wind swept Green Beret competition at Gilwell Park. This year it was a challenge not only to the young people but to the support teams as well! We had our best attendance ever and 5th Letchworth managed to record our highest finishing position for a long time. Well done to everyone involved, the young people, Leaders and parents. Following on from the level of attendance at the recent Remembrance Day services it demonstrates how varied the list of activities we offer the young people is.

We are now reaching the end of another exceptionally busy year of Scouting in the District. the highlights of which are too numerous to mention without doing a disservice to those Groups who I miss out. If I have to mention any it would be the hugely successful District visit to Lochearnhead in the summer. 100 young people and a leader team of 40 had a great time in rain swept Scotland. Suffice it to say that there have been few weekends over the last year when a group of our young people have not been out somewhere locally doing what we love best, having fun and learning at the same time.

Again this year the Leader Team and a large number of parent helpers have demonstrated a superb level of commitment and dedication to the ideals of Scouting that has enabled us to deliver the best possible experience to a huge number of our membership.

As the festive season approaches I would like to say a huge thank you for everything you have done this year, have a wonderful Christmas, relax, eat, drink and recharge your batteries ready for the challenges to come in 2010.

Chris

8th Letchworth Beaver Meeting

Tonight the Beavers had a visit from some very interesting people, Bridget, Walter and some of their 'friends' First of all we met Elvis, an emperor scorpion. Due to the high chance of a nip or sting, he was only handled by Walter. We learnt that scorpions belong to the arachnid family. Walter explained the difference between poisonous and venomous.

Then we met Grace, a Mexican red knee tarantula. She was quite lively so Bridget handled her. Otter was brave enough to hold her ! Next was Nip, a halloween crab. So called because of the colouring on the shell. He had a scuttle across the floor before being scooped up by Walter and shown around. Aqua the water dragon was one of the most popular animals. I think every child in the room had her on their arm at one point. Jewel the 6 year old boa constrictor was then taken out of her box by Bridget. I was reliably informed that she was fed last Sunday so wouldn't be looking for a snack tonight ! Everyone got to stroke her and our favourite GSL, Peter even put her round his neck. He said she was very heavy and could feel her grip tightening as she clung to him.

With the reptiles safely back in their boxes it was time for some small rodents. We met Sid, a duprasii and Ben, a shaw's jird. Some of the Beavers are going to have lots of luck now, as these animals pooped in some of their hands ! Mags the African pygmy hedgehog wasn't much better behaved and also pooped in Lucy's hand. Last but not least, we met Dot the fluffy rabbit. Walter put her down on the floor and she went over to some of the Beavers who were delighted.

It was a lovely evening and all the Beavers (and Cubs who came for moving on) had a great time.

Remembrance Sunday



**4th Letchworth Scout Group
at St Paul's Church**



The District Scouts Remember



All Groups in the District , including Explorer Scouts, Scout Network and Fellowship took part at various Acts of Remembrance on Sunday 8 November held throughout the District. 1st Baldock and 2nd Baldock took part in the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in the High Street.

4th Letchworth Scout Group were at St Paul's Church (See photo above). 5th Letchworth, 7th Letchworth, 8th Letchworth , 11th Letchworth and 12th Letchworth congregated at The War Memorial in Letchworth and Ashwell were at the War Memorial in Ashwell.



8th Letchworth Scouts went to Wendover Woods to do some orienteering. The event started in torrential rain and high winds, which luckily turned into a lovely day by lunchtime. The Scouts completed one of the moderate courses. They will be sending off their completed map to Thames Valley Orienteering Club to get their certificates.

Situated on the northern edge of the Chiltern escarpment Wendover Woods affords spectacular views across the Aylesbury Vale. Within 325 hectares of mixed coniferous and broadleaved woodland you will find plenty to see and do. Either spend an energetic day orienteering and cycling Alternatively take it easy and stroll along the all ability trail to reach the Chiltern's highest point and relax with a picnic.



8th Letchworth Beaver Scouts Children in Need

On Thursday 19 November the 8th Letchworth Beavers and their families had a fun and games night to raise money for Children In Need.

Back by popular demand, there was apple bobbing followed by lollies in flour. Lots of white faces and not just the children ! Guess how many sweets in the jar was won by Harry who had the closest guess. He won the sweets much to his Dad's delight ! Dragonfly picked the right Pudsey so she closed her eyes and picked another one, which was Ben's. He won a Junior Monopoly game. We will have to wait until the programme is on to find out who won Gary's Spot Kick !

Homemade cakes, biscuits and squash were on sale along with the Beavers 'Little Book of Humour' - a collection of jokes and drawings of Pudsey Bear. Also on sale were Autumn placemats and coasters that they made by leaf rubbing earlier in the term.

Everyone had a go at catching Pudsey as he went down the drainpipe. They also threw beanbags into Santa's mouth.

There was a raffle with 15 prizes !

A whopping £77.80 was raised !

Well done everyone !!





5th Letchworth Scouts

Harmergreen Backwoods Camping

Friday night

This was my first camp with Scouts, I was excited. We packed up the car and met Tim outside Geoff's old house. We then drove in convoy to Harmergreen; it was up a long track into the woods. When we arrived we took our stuff and went up a track, cut across the woods to our pitch.

The bags were stacked up around a tree stump and we all got busy putting up tents. I helped put up the mess tent where the kitchen is (very important), it was hard work. I did it with Tim, Charlie, Gareth, Mary and Ben. The others were preparing the other tents.

Tim called us into the middle of camp and told us who was sleeping with who; I was with Lewis, Joe, Ben and Luke. We put up our tent together.

When it was dark a camp fire was lit and we sat around it discussing the wide game Tim wanted us to play. We played this in the woods in the dark, it was fun and I wanted to play it again! After this Andrew's Rocky Road was dished out – it was delicious and finished off the day nicely. Lights out.

Saturday

It was raining when we woke up, but that didn't stop us! Geoff made a great breakfast of porridge, bacon, sausages and eggy bread – yummy. I helped wash and dry up. After this I did some chopping of wood and stoking the fire. Charlie, William, Stephen, Luke and I had to go and find dry wood. Stephen said he knew where it was and led us on a wild goose chase!! Everyone else got on with other jobs.

Bradley, Benedict and I made a bivouac together in the woods. This was good fun, Chris and Luke joined us. This took most of the day. We were interrupted by Tim blowing on his whistle to call us back for lunch - Toasties from the fire and toasted chestnuts which we found on the ground – they were tasty – I can almost taste them now!! Back to the bivis after lunch, we couldn't sleep in it though as there were too many holes.

Other scouts were skinning and gutting rabbits – we didn't all have to join in, we could just watch. The rabbits were for Sunday lunch. Geoff served up roast chicken, gravy, broccoli and roast potatoes done first in the bin (the wood was wet and didn't cook well) then on the camp cooker for supper – great meal! Hot chocolate, yummy ginger cake and camp fire games along with 50/50 finished off the day.

Sunday

Lie in as I didn't have a good night's sleep, then hot chestnuts again from the camp fire. Breakfast – porridge, bacon, sausages and eggy bread – Geoff cooked another great breakfast. Washing up again, then a long wide game which was great fun. Nick and Tom arrived, we all helped to pack up the tents, and they were dry! Tom had come in his truck which got stuck in the mud; we all had to push it out!

Geoff cooked again – rabbit stew this time – I found a rabbit eye in mine so only had one helping but I do like rabbit. Can we have some rabbit another time? I helped wash up again and then we broke camp and went home.

My first Scout camp – it was great – can't wait for the next one!

By Simon Kitching, 5th Letchworth Scouts

CHRISTMAS FAYRE



8th Letchworth Scouts

Sparhawke

(in the grounds of Grange School)

Sunday 13 December

12 - 2pm



©fannmunch.com



- Visit Father Christmas
- Christmas Raffle
- Cake Stall
- Tombola
- Tea/Coffee & Mince Pies
- Christmas gifts
- Fun & Games for all the family

If you would like to have a stall at our fayre please email karenryall70@aol.com to book as we have limited spaces.

Cost £5.00 per stall.

Local Christmas card delivery

Fundraising for 1st Baldock Scout Group

Use our special Scouts stamps (only £1.00 for 5)

Pop your cards in the Scout post box
(Baldock addresses only please; no parcels)

We'll do the rest

Stamps and post boxes from 20th November at

Baldock Community Centre

Tapps' Garden Centre

Any questions please e-mail chrispaxton@tiscali.co.uk



Achievements

Chief Scout's Silver Award



Daniel Davey	5th Letchworth
Ruth Fox	5th Letchworth
Rachel Hamblin	5th Letchworth
Katherine Rice	5th Letchworth
Tom Rice	5th Letchworth
Kamil Zielinski	5th Letchworth



Congratulations to Barry Dickinson, District Scouter, Rob Hemmings, ASL 1st Baldock and Dave Upson , Chairman - Fellowship on being awarded the Award of Merit for outstanding service.



Congratulations Chris Lewis ASL 1st Baldock on being awarded the Chief Scout's Commendation for good service.



Belated congratulations to Herlide Franklin, ACSL 7th Letchworth and husband on the birth of their bay girl in September. Weighing in at over 9lbs and called Bethan. Congratulations from all in the District.



DIARY 2009

DECEMBER

1	PLP Evening 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	District HQ
1	Appointments Advisory Committee	District HQ
7	Explorer Scouts Christmas Meal	Aroma - County Event
10	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
11	PLP Evening 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	District HQ
12	Fellowship Christmas Dinner	Howard Social Centre
17	Scout Shop Closes	

JANUARY 2010

11	District Cub Leaders' Meeting	TBA
12	Scout Shop Re-Opens	
14	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
15 - 17	Fire & Ice	Tolmers
25	Wymondley Wood Committee	107 Spring Road
30	Watford FC Scout & Guide Day	Watford v Swansea City Vicarage Road

FEBRUARY

11	District Executive Meeting	Wymondley Wood
21	County Scout Cooking Competition	Stevenage DHQ



**Seasons
Greetings
From
Letchworth and
Baldock
District Scouts**

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