

Co-Ordinator

St George's Day Parade and Service

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

This year's Parade and Service took place in Letchworth. We assembled at the outdoor swimming pool car park. The parade was marshalled by Gavin Conder- ADC (Scouts) and was ready to move off at 2.30 pm. One Beaver was concerned about the idea of walking on the road, his Beaver Leader assured him that walking on the road was alright as the police were closing the road to traffic. He was completely reassured when he saw the police car with blue lights flashing leading the way.

The Letchworth Garden City Salvation Army Band provided a welcome beat to march to. We marched to St George's Church where we were met by Rev'd Barry Pate who was to conduct the service.

The Parade made a spectacular sight with all the colours at the front as it made its way along Norton Way North. Once in the church, which was full to capacity, the service took place. The Rev'd Barry Pate conducted an interview with Scouts from 7th Letchworth Scout Group on "Scouting in the Community" and what they had done toward this aim. This year's collection made a total of £200, and will be donated to the Dyslexia Society at 7th Letchworth Scout Group AGM in May.

After the service the parade made its way to Norton Common where after a few words from Mick Edwards the County representative we were dismissed. Refreshments were served in the Clulow Room by Letchworth Scout Active Support Unit.

Thank you to 7th Letchworth Scout Group, in particular David Fabris, Chairman and his team for organising the event on behalf of the District.

Thank you to Councillor David Levett NHDC Chairman and Dee, Councillor Lynda

Needham, Leader of the Council and Ken, Councillor Michael Paterson, NHDC, Colin Chatfield, LGCHF Chairman Board of Management, Ian Webb LGCHF Director of Finance for finding time to attend this important date in the Scouting Calendar and help making it a special day.





Beaver Parent View Point

As a Beaver parent, the last twelve months have been very busy. With visits to the library, Fire Station and virtual trips to Ireland, Italy and Australia via themed nights, our feet have hardly had time to touch the ground.

However, there are two particular highlights that stand out. First the Cyclocross in October. The weather was unseasonably warm, and all who took part and spectated enjoyed the circuit, the police speed test, meeting old friends and make new ones, and of course, the burger stand!

The main event of the year for us were the three sleepovers that our Beavers took part in. Just before Christmas, we dropped our daughter off at Wymondley Wood for her first ever night away. The kit had been carefully named and packed the night before, however, I was still prepared for a last minute change of mind! She was greeted at the door by her friend with "Come and see our room!" and off they ran. After signing her in, we went to settle her in, but found we were surplus to requirements, with barely a "yeah bye" before we were shoved out! She had the most amazing time, and slept well. I didn't, however - laying awake, waiting for the call "Can you come and get her, she's upset!". Of course, that call never came.

I want to finish by paying tribute to the Leaders, Dragonfly, Otter and Ash, and the young helpers, who give up so much of their time so that these children get to try our and enjoy these new experiences. Their care, support and understanding goes way above just planning the weekly meetings. When our daughter joined Beavers just over a year ago, she was reluctant to venture into the unknown; but her confidence has grown, she has made new friends, and is ready and raring to try almost anything they throw at her. Never once has she said "I don't want to go to Beavers tonight".

So now, she's off to Cubs, Walesby five nights away already booked. Looking forward to making new friends and doing new things, but we will never forget her time at Beavers.

Donna
8th Letchworth Parent



District - Nightjar Competition

On the 2 April, 1st Baldock Scout Troop took part in a night hike with the District lasting the whole night. The people in our troop were Alex Bandy, Louise Baxter, Ashley Hunter, Lucy Brewer, Helen Inman and myself Nick Brewer. It was full of challenges like push-carting and making a flag. It all started at 8:30 pm when we left our first checkpoint outside Weston woods. We all had an allocated time where we had to stay in the boundary of that time limit which we easily beat every time so we had to keep waiting around before that checkpoint so we didn't lose points. The first challenge was making a flag with sticks and rubber bands which we all did quite well on because it was pretty simple and the rules weren't that strict. We then went on to base 3 which we got to stupidly early too and a lot of us needed the loo. We still got there just a minute to early so we actually lost marks!

That challenge was pulling yourself up a hill on a cart using a long piece of rope. That was quite hard so we let Louise do a lot of it. Unfortunately we didn't do so well and that was our worst base in terms of points. Then we started to walk to base 4 across a long, cold, windy field to the next challenge which was a quiz.

We did amazingly well in that quiz and got one hundred percent in record time because we were all so clever. By this time it was 11:00 pm and we were not tired at all. Base 5 was my personal favourite because we were pushing each other on carts on a beaten track in the pitch black with deep ditches beside us. It was very fast as well and we nearly got full marks which was very good.

Our next base was base 6 where we got there stupidly early again. We were wondering why we heard very loud music while we were walking until we got there. It was a maze of tape where we had to guide a person which was Alex, drowned by very loud music, so it was hard to tell him where to go. The music was so awfully bad and probably 150 decibels, I'm surprised no one became deaf. In the end we did quite well and we were pretty successful.

We then went across the bypass to our last base which was so boring. It was a bunch of dull questions about first aid. We still did quite well but by that time we were all tired and cold.

We all got back to the scout hut at 12:30 am which was surprisingly earlier than expected. There were hot dogs and hot chocolate which was very nice. At first we didn't know we were sharing the room with the whole District so that became very annoying. I don't know how anyone got to sleep but I did for quite a while until the Ashwell kids woke us all up or those who weren't already awake with their loud music and the Haribo that they were chucking around. But my sister seemed to like them which was quite odd. They fortunately went to sleep an hour later and I got an extra hour of sleep.

The Leader then woke us up at 7 am and we all had to pack our stuff away and go to the Tesco's car park. I'm glad I wasn't the one who was picking up the Haribo. When we were there the Leaders announced the results. 2nd Baldock came third, 4th Letchworth came 2nd and we came first!

So we posed for our picture with the certificate and the trophy and we all went home....

**A great night last night – looking forward to Nightjar 2012 - Scout Leader
Still haven't gone to bed.**

What a success last night was. Congratulations to all those who helped, organised, entered teams, ran bases, radios etc etc and not forgetting the Scouts who took part. Great job done by all - Gavin Conder ADC (Scouts)



Scout Active Support Unit - St George's Dinner

On a very spring like evening Saturday 16 April 34 fellows of the ASU gathered at the Guide HQ in Icknield Way for a celebrated dinner in honour of our saint. Among them were our very own KJ and Dave Northover, both of them are looking very well after a bout of illness, it was good to see them.

Our catering team produced a good traditional English roast beef dinner served at the table . (bang goes the diet once again). After the dinner, instead of the usual speeches Edmond, Nick, and Peter gave a rendition of "Ode to being English". From this we learnt some interesting little known facts:-

The Romans built straight roads but did not stay to clear up afterwards as our country was too cold for them in their Togas.

The French conquered us, but we did not and will not eat snails or frogs legs. In the end they had to learn English, and become part of this great nation of ours.

Henry V made a rousing speech to his troops before going to a night at Henlow dogs, (apparently).

Then on to Churchill's famous "Never in the field of human conflict" no one messes around with us. After that tea and coffee was served, there was the raffle, we all sang "Rule Britannia" and "Land of Hope and Glory.

All too soon it was over. Every one pitched in clearing up and we made our way home for a good night's sleep so as to be refreshed for the Saints day parade and service next day.

A very BIG THANK YOU to Sheila Tickner who thought up the idea of the dinner and to the team who helped it come to fruition.



Fred Lovelock - ASU

Thank you to the Letchworth Civic Trust for their grant of £3000 towards the DHQ kitchen renovations and a thank you to Councillor Terry Hone for £1490 for a new Cooker and kitchen equipment.

Everyone Welcome - The District AGM Thursday 12 May at the District Headquarters 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm Please note that there will be no parking at DHQ. Cars should be parked in the rear of the Spirella car park where there is a walkway through to the HQ past Busy Bees nursery. Anybody with mobility issues should contact the District Secretary, Janet Conder for reserved parking at DHQ.



Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre 2010

We have had another very successful year at the Centre as illustrated by the figures below.

In residence – between 1 and 5 nights

Beavers	7
Cubs	8
Brownies	15
Guides	6
Scouts	3
Schools	8
Others	7
(Trefoil Guild, Training Groups etc)	

Camping between 1 and 5 nights

Cubs	5
Scouts	7
Guides	2
Schools	4
Others	9
(DofE, Police Cadets, St John Cadets)	

Day and Evening visits – between 2 and 12 hours

Schools	9	Scouts / Guides	132
---------	---	-----------------	-----

This means approximately 5750 children and young people enjoyed the facilities at the Centre. Over 3000 of the total number used the Centre free of charge – all the 132 Guide / Scout day visitors. These youngsters are all supervised by volunteers. This represents great value for the Heritage Foundation on whose generous grant we rely to provide the facilities.

Highlights of the year included three large events organised by the Guide Districts of Letchworth Garden City, Hitchin and Stevenage to celebrate the Centenary of Girlguiding. We were also pleased to add cadets from the Hertfordshire and Metropolitan police forces to our list of visitors.

We have completed the internal and external decoration of all the buildings at the Centre as part of an on-going maintenance programme.

Unfortunately we are once again having problems with the pumps in the sewage system. We have been recommended an alternative system which we will install next time there is a problem with the pumps.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who give up so much of their time to make the Centre such a success. My thanks go to the management committee including our new member Jeff Robson and to all the wardens who are managing an ever increasing load especially during the summer months. The Centre has gained a high reputation in Scouting and Guiding and is one of the most popular in the region.

Bob Williams
Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre – Chairman



Letchworth & Baldock District Scouts

Open Day

SUNDAY 5 JUNE 2011

11AM - 3PM

AT

**DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS
ICKNIELD WAY, LETCHWORTH**

LETCWORTH

**Free Entry
Bric-a-brac
Plant stall
Free ladder challenge
Books and DVDs
Adult and children's tombolas**

**Barbeque
Teas and cakes
Cake stall**



**Lots of fun
everyone welcome**

**REGISTERED CHARITY
NUMBER 279860**

**CONTACT; JANET CONDER
DISTRICT SECRETARY
TEL 01462 624365**

District Training Dates

PLP Evenings to be held at DHQ between 18:30 and 20:00

Friday 27 May 2011

Tuesday 31 May 2011

First Aid Courses to be held at DHQ between 10:00 and 16:30

Saturday 28th May 2011

Saturday 2nd July 2011

All requests for the First Aid Courses are to be sent to Simon Tierney so he can keep a track of who is on each course.



Simon Tierney
Training Administrator

Home Tel No: (01462) 624762
Mobile No: 07773377979

Scout Active Support Unit - Events

Sheila Tickner, Active Support Member is holding her book club on Saturday 14 May so that those of us who have missed out on this most enjoyable event can come along and swap books and jigsaw, or just come along, enjoy the company, and a chat for 50p.



Event: Book Club
Date: 14 May 2011
Time: 15:00 - 17:00
Cost: 50p
Venue: 116 Icknield Way, Letchworth Garden City



Event: Cub Day
Date: 25 June 2011
Time: 10:30 - late
Cost: £2.00
Venue: Boyd Field, Henlow



Please bring your own lunch to cook over the fire together will all the utensils, pots and pans you will need. The evening meal will be the usual fish and chips dinner, order on the day.

For more details on the events above please contact Fred Lovelock - fredlovelock@msn.com

District Headquarters Open Day

As you will have read we are planning a public Open day at the newly renovated DHQ on Sunday 5 June. The aims of the open day are to recruit new leaders for across the District, advertise DHQ for hire, and raise funds. To make this day successful we really need your help both on the day and with donations of cakes/plants etc;-

We will be setting up at DHQ on Saturday 4 June between 2 pm and 4 pm, please drop in with any donations of items to sell or contact one of the following in advance;-

Can you bake us a cake? Donate tombola items? Contact Clair Calver on 01462 635315

Can you spare some plants? Contact Anne Gutteridge on 01462 620486

Do you have any children's books; atlas or children's encyclopaedias to donate? Contact Wendy Tierney on 01462 624762 (surplus will be donated to charity)

Can you spare some time on the day to stand on a stall or help with refreshments and chat about Scouting? Contact Janet Conder on 01462 624365

Please help your District to help you!

Swaziland Team Update

The Explorer Scouts, Emma Hart, Katie Goodwin and Luke Franklin who are going to Swaziland have been busy fundraising over the last months.

To date:

18 / 19 March Gang Show - refreshment stall raised £150

27 March - Table top stall at 8th Letchworth - did not raise much money but gained lots of stock for the toy stall on 23 April.

2 April - Quiz Night - was a great success and was very well attended making a surplus of £580. Thank you to Lordship Farm School for the use of their facilities and to Anne Gutteridge for setting the questions and acting as quiz master.

21 April - bag packing at Sainsbury's raised £387.73

23 April - Britannia Day in Letchworth - held a cake stall and a toy stall. The toy stall raised £127.61 and the Cake Stall raised £239.28

15 May all three will be participating in the Rotary Club of Letchworth Greenway Walk.

Achievements

Chief Scout's Bronze Award



Abigail Cobb	12th Letchworth
Eva McCabe	12th Letchworth
Callum McCreath	12th Letchworth
Kirsty Weller	12th Letchworth

Chief Scout's Silver Award



Daniel Barnicott	1st Baldock (Templars)
Danielle Close	1st Baldock (Templars)
Sam Collins	1st Baldock (Templars)
Michael Davidson	1st Baldock (Knights)
Amman Dosanjh	12th Letchworth
John Goward	1st Baldock (Templars)
Marcus Green	1st Baldock (Templars)
Joe Henderson	12th Letchworth
Luke Mills	1st Baldock (Templars)
Harry Pearce	1st Baldock (Templars)
Sam Prior	1st Baldock (Templars)
Joe Royal	1st Baldock (Templars)
Harry Schlote	12th Letchworth
Kieran Watkins	1st Baldock (Templars)



A warm welcome to

Mrs Gillian Hind ASL 1st Ashwell

Mrs Helen Galvin ABSL 8th Letchworth

DIARY 2011

MAY

3	Lochearnhead Meeting	DHQ
7	District Beaver Challenge	11th Letchworth HQ
8	County Cub Scout 6-a-side Football	TBA
11	5th Letchworth AGM	5th Letchworth HQ
11	1st Ashwell AGM	Village Hall
12	District AGM	District HQ
13	7th Letchworth Scout Group A.G.M.	Wilbury Hall
14	Book Club - Scout Active Support	116 Icknield Way
15	Letchworth Rotary Greenway Walk	
20	4th Letchworth AGM	St Paul's Church Hall
21	8th Letchworth 50th Anniversary celebrations	8th Letchworth HQ
22	District Scout Shooting / Archery Competition	TBC
23	Wymondley Wood Meeting	
30 - 3 June	School Half Term	

JUNE

5	District Headquarters "Open Day"	DHQ
9	District Executive Meeting	DHQ
11 - 12	District Scout Kon Tiki	TBC
12	District Beaver Day Out	Tolmers
15	1st Baldock AGM	1st Baldock HQ
23	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood
25	"Cub Day" - Scout Active Support	Boyd Field, Henlow
27	Wymondley Wood Meeting	Wymondley Wood

**Letchworth and Baldock
District Scouts Editor Rita
Hawkins, 1 South Close,
Baldock SG7 6DS
editor3@btinternet.com
Printed by: Print Factory,
Whitehorse Street, Baldock
Printfactory@tesco.net**

