

Co-Ordinator

St George's Day Parade and Service

St George's Day Parade and Service

There will be a rehearsal for the colour parties and readers on

**Saturday 21 April at Holy Trinity and St Augustine of
Canterbury, Baldock at 9.30 am until 10.30 am.**

Please ensure that your colour parties attend - they do not
have to be in uniform for the rehearsal, only their neckerchief.

St George's Day Charity

This year's retiring collection will be donated to Sands



**Supporting anyone affected by the death of a baby and
promoting research to reduce the loss of babies' lives**

Sands is an organisation which can offer support when a baby dies during pregnancy or after birth. Please can all Leaders ask their parents to give their children a few pennies to give to this well deserved cause.

For more information on Sands please visit their website: www.uk-sands.org

C E N U S 2 0 1 2

GROUP	Beavers				Cubs				Scouts				Explorers		Leaders		Assistants		Others		Group Totals	Census 2011
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
1st Ashwell	15	11	20	16	23	5															104	was 97
1st Baldock	34	3	37	7	29	10									8	7		1			136	138
1st/3rd Letchworth													closed									closed
2nd Baldock	11	0	22	2	15	5									3	5					63	59
2nd Weston													closed									closed
4th Letchworth	10	4	10	8	22	2									3	4					64	79
5th Letchworth	17	1	18	3	20	8									6	5					79	57
7th Letchworth	20	3	21	10	16	10									4	6					90	79
8th Letchworth	10	12	18	11	19	9									9	8					96	89
11th Letchworth	11	1	11	1	6	3									3	4					40	46
12th Letchworth	16	9	19	7	19	0									3	4					78	64
Oak Eagle Explorers Network													41	22	3	1			8	4	67	54
																					12	8
TOTALS	144	44	17	65	169	52							41	22	48	51		2	3		829	770
Active Support District Team																			19	15	34	36
																			9	4	13	14
																					876	820

My year in 8th Letchworth Cubs

We have had another fun filled year in Cubs. Here are some of the things that we have done this year.

April We celebrated St George's day with a parade through Letchworth. We all looked very smart in our uniforms. Some of us also took part in the annual District swimming gala.

May We took part in the Greenway Walk to raise funds for the group. We had to walk 14 miles. Lots of us took part and we raised a lot of money. Also in May, we celebrated our 50th anniversary. A party was held at the Scout Headquarters and we played lots of games. The best bit was when Akela was put in the stocks and drenched! Also in May we did shooting in the shooting area at the Scout Headquarters

June In June we did archery and marshmallow roasting on the camp fire which was blazing hot.

July We competed in the annual dragon boat racing at Fairland's Valley. We all had lots of fun but we came last!

August We went on a fun filled camp to Walesby, Nottinghamshire for six days. Whilst there we did lots of activities such as mini golf, archery, shooting, obstacle course, canoeing, abseiling, taekwondo, cave maze, climbing walls and we had a disco in the evening. We camped but we didn't have to do any of the cooking. We all had a great time.

September On the 17 of September we went on a night hike. We walked five miles and completed six activities along the way. Unfortunately Akela led us into a field so he wasn't the best guide! Then we slept over at a massive school with other Cubs.

October We went bowling at Hollywood bowl, after that we had sausage and chips and a slush puppy. We had a Halloween fancy dress party at the Scout HQ, we went home with lots of sweets. None of the Leaders dressed up!

November Gang Show first rehearsal. The show takes place in March. We went to the Remembrance Day parade and marched from the train station to the Nat west building. It only lasted for 20 minutes. We went to the RAF museum in Hendon and looked at the planes. We looked at all the planes and tried some scientific experiments. Xmas fair in the Scout HQ

December Bag packing at Morrison's. We raised nearly £1000 and all of that money is helping us go on more camps.

March On the 1st of March we went to a Cub camp at Wymondley Woods. Whilst we were there we completed two badges which were the cooking badge and some of us got our 10 night's away badge as well.

Rebecca

8th Letchworth Cub Scout

Letchworth and Baldock Scouts Reign Supreme at the Mid Herts Night Hike

After we arrived at Cuffley School we had to unpack our sleeping bags and make our beds in the school hall. There were 34 teams, which meant there were a lot of Scouts and the hall was noisy.

Jack T, Alex G and Jay were in my team.

We had our kit inspected to make sure we had the right equipment.

We had a briefing when we were told where to go and they handed out maps.

We were told about hypothermia, the symptoms, how to prevent it and what to do if we should get it. Although the sky was clear, the weather was mild.

It was dark outside when we started; we checked the map and decided where to go.

The route started in the school grounds and then we had to walk in fields and the countryside.

My favourite base was number three, where we had Nerf guns. We had to shoot cans stacked up on a table.

We did get lost, but luckily the minibus that was patrolling the area found us and we managed to get back on course.

We were not the first or last group to return to the school we were in the middle. They were handing out snacks, although I was too tired to eat or drink. I was also too tired to sleep.

At the award ceremony on Sunday morning we were presented with the winning trophy. I had not realised that we had won, as I was too busy sleeping on a pile of bags at the back of the hall. Jack T dragged me to the front of the hall to receive the trophy. I was thrilled and very very tired.



**William Stewardson
8th Letchworth
Scouts**

**The Scouts from the
left are
William Stewardson,
Jack Taplin,
Jay Lamb and
Alex Greenhalgh.**

Letchworth and Baldock Scouts Reign Supreme at the Mid Herts Night Hike

Over the evening of March 3rd and 4th, three valiant teams gate crashed the Mid Herts Night Hike and showed off their map reading skills.

Teams set off around 8 pm and gradually made their way round the set route navigating to six bases set up around the course. The three teams were 1st Baldock Scouts, and two teams from 8th Letchworth Scouts.

In total there were thirty three teams taking part this year. The team who organized this event have got to pat themselves on the back. It seems to grow year in year out.

Gratitude goes out to the team who set out the route, planned it all, and made things as safe as possible for everyone to enjoy the hike, without getting seriously off course. Only a few teams had to be rerouted.

I do hope we can enter again next year, if not I will make sure I assist the planning team again, as it's a learning curve for myself and I get something out of it just as much as the Young people get something out of it doing the bases and practicing their map reading.

The top ten scores and rankings were:-

		Kit Check	Base 1	Base 2	Base 3	Base 4	Base 5	Base 6	MC Total
8th Letchworth	Crackerjacks	100	99	58	74	14	83	60	488
1st Baldock	Fox	100	95	73	99	9	42	60	478
11th WGC	Bulldog	100	98	73	99	16	44	45	475
6th WGC	Hot Chocolate	95	96	58	86	18	55	66	474
3rd Hatfield (Air)	Mosquito	100	93	73	94	12	52	58	-10 472
2nd Welwyn Scts	Noise	100	78	73	78	12	51	66	10 468
7th Hatfield	Dixon 1	100	97	78	89	6	31	67	468
3rd/9th WGC	Frogs	100	95	83	60	14	72	42	466
8th Letchworth	Legends	98	94	68	88	20	59	38	465
1st Cuffley	Foxes	95	83	63	96	6	56	65	464

Chris Lewis
ASL - 1st Baldock

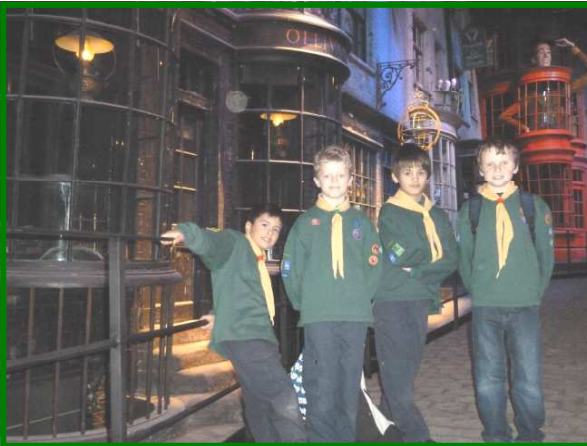
Harry Potter

One Sunday afternoon in February I got an e-mail about tickets for the Harry Potter Experience near Watford - 100 tickets were available for Hertfordshire Cubs and Scouts. We rushed out an e-mail, got a few replies and sent off a request for tickets for four Cubs and two adults. Then we had to sit back and wait, keeping our fingers crossed!

By the next afternoon all the tickets had gone but we were fortunate and had got our 6 tickets. It did indeed feel like a Golden Willy Wonka ticket!

The day arrived! Even torrential rain didn't stop the excitement and we joined the others (mostly from Watford, St. Albans and Rickmansworth) at the Warner Brothers Studios.

As we waited we had a look round the brand new shop (only opened 2 days before), it was full of wands, Quidditch sticks, owls and lots of other wonderful souvenirs. (but no sweets – they hadn't arrived yet!)



After the introductory film, the doors of the Great Hall were suddenly in front of us and the tour started! Through the doors we walked on a real York stone floor, taking in the pupils' benches, the golden plates and goblets, the candles, stone eagles and shields on the walls, costumes of Hogwarts pupils and teachers. Then we went on to how the films were made and by which directors. There were the sets for the Gryffindor boys' dormitory and their common room, Professor Dumbledore's office and the Weasley's crooked house, with knitting needles knitting all by

themselves! We were shown how the Quidditch game was filmed and the brooms to ride upon; the Ministry of Magic sets and then how the electronic items were built and how they worked. Round the next corner and we were in Diagon Alley – amazing, as we walked up the cobblestone road and looked into all the shop windows. And much more! I hope this gives a little taste of what it was like without spoiling it for future visitors.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and I am sure we will all be going back one day soon!



Hounds for Heroes 2nd Baldock Cubs

As part of the Community Challenge, 2nd Baldock Cubs decided to organise a small Fayre to raise money for the Hounds for Heroes appeal. The Sixes were divided into two groups and then discussed what they could do for a stall. They selected two ideas and planned everything they would need for these stalls.

On the night, everyone arrived early to set up their stalls and as soon as they were ready, the first parents, brothers, sisters and friends arrived to spend their money. The hall was full of people and the buzz was audible throughout the hall. We all really enjoyed the event and our treasurer Stewart went off with bags of money to count and tell us how much we had made!

A few weeks later we had special visitors. David and Gill arrived to tell the Cubs all about Hounds for Heroes, how it started and how the dogs are trained. They brought with them a very special visitor called Polo – a labradoodle, who had been trained as a helping dog and Gill showed us all the things he had been trained to do such as answering the door, picking up the remote control and helping people to dress. We could all see what a wonderful help a dog like this would be to a wounded service man. We were very pleased to be able to present them with a cheque for £150 to help them buy or train another dog (although it costs a lot more than this!). We would like to thank everyone who turned up and supported the fundraising event.

Diana Marshall - CSL 2nd Baldock



Polo with 2nd Baldock Cubs





Chiltern Challenge



What is Chiltern Challenge ?

Chiltern Challenge is Hertfordshire Scouts very own Explorer Scout Competition. Over the weekend, teams of five pit their wits against a series of challenges designed to show their skill, ingenuity and team working.

During the day, teams undertake the navigation challenge, our assault course (mud will be provided!) and a series of team challenges around Phasels Wood Scout Activity Centre.

Once darkness falls, the competition continues in the countryside in deepest darkest Hertfordshire. Teams will face the task of navigating to bases around our 20 km course, where further points can be gained on the night challenges.

Chiltern Challenge has been running since 1978, when it was run by the Chiltern Venture Scout Unit for local Scout and Guides. Since then the event has flourished and is now run by the Scout Network for the Explorer Scout section. Chiltern Challenge now attracts entries from around the UK

Two teams from the Letchworth and Baldock District Oak Eagles Explorer Unit took part in this year's event. With twenty seven teams taking part the competition the Oak Eagles Team 1 came a very creditable 16th and Oak Eagles Team 2 came 19th. Well done to both teams who not only took part in the competition but had fun doing it.



LETCHWORTH TOWN TWINNING (A chance to learn about Scouting in Germany)

We are trying to find a family to host a German family (who speak very good English). They have 2 boys aged 11 and 13 approx and would like to twin with a similar family. The visit takes place on the 17 - 21 May 2012. (the return visit to Germany - August Bank Holiday 2013) During the visit the Twinning Association organises most of the weekend. For more details please phone Jon and Diana Marshall on 01462 673956 or 07803011174

The Garden City 14 Charity Walk - Sunday 20 May 2012

The Rotary Club of Letchworth Garden City is organising its 30th annual Garden City 14 Charity Walk - a walk of about 14 miles (or less - you don't have to complete it all!) around the footpaths of the garden City Greenway. The Rotary Club do all the organising - you get the sponsors. They take 25% of funds raised for Rotary Charities and your charity / organisation gets the rest.

For more information and registration forms please contact:

Terry Pitton 01462 686463

The starting point is Highfield School. You can register and begin your walk at any time between 8.30 am and 10.00 am. You should plan to finish by 4.00 pm. This means that walking briskly you need to clear Checkpoint one by 10.45 am at the latest. Checkpoint two by 12.00 pm. Checkpoint three by 1.15 pm. Checkpoint 4 by 2.15 pm and Checkpoint five by 5.25 pm. The sweeper walk will start at 11.30 am.

Walkers under 15 years of age, either individually or in a group must be accompanied by an adult.

There is a registration fee of £1.00 per walker which helps with administration and refreshments. costs.

Trio commended for community work



■ Pictured with North Herts District Council chairman Michael Weeks (second left) are, left to right, Pat Sawyer and Mick and Debbie Dilley

THREE people have been rewarded for their work in the community at a civic reception.

North Herts District Council chairman Cllr Michael Weeks hosted the reception on Friday at Blakemore Hotel in Great Wymondley, where he commended people in the district for their hard work in the community.

Husband and wife Debbie and Mick Dilley were handed awards for their work at the Second Baldock Scout group. Mick has been a leader there for nearly 50 years, and is the longest serving scout in the district.

Headteacher at Hartsfield JMI School in Baldock, Pat Sawyer, was also commended for services to education.

Scout Active Support Unit



The Active Support Unit has been living up to its name ever since the "Burns Night Supper", we have been involved in supporting Scouting. Our manager Dynamic Dave has been busy rehearsing for the Gang Show. He is still very active although he became an OAP in February. Also he takes his turn helping out at the 12th Letchworth Cubs.

For our event in February, to raise funds we held a cheese and wine night at the Guide HQ. This was a very pleasant evening. There was a quiz (on wines), a raffle, some wine was drunk, all the cheese & crackers eaten, and lots of conversation.

In March Sheila held her last "Book Club", for now. We do not do Coffee mornings; book club afternoons are a lot more entertaining, and over the winter months it gives us something to look forward to. A very good amount was raised for funds. Thank you Sheila for your hospitality.

On St Patrick's day to celebrate, we went bowling over at the Hollywood Bowl Stevenage. Although most of us had not bowled for ages I think that we did very well. If any Scout group would like to challenge us to a game, please get in touch. Afterwards we went to the Broadway Hotel for a well deserved dinner.

By the time you read this we will have done "Front of House", at the Gang Show.

Also probably the cooking for the Scouts "Night Jar" competition.

Fred Lovelock
Scribe to the ASU.

Scout Active Support Unit Calendar of events

Date: Saturday 12 May 2012
Event: Trip on the river Lea with a ploughman's supper
Time: Set sail at 7.00 pm for a two and a half hour trip
Cost : £14.00 per person



Date: Saturday 30 June 2012
Event: Celebrate London - take part in their own Olympics, have a London meal and celebrate the "Queens Diamond Jubilee" in the evening. They will also be holding their GMA (General Meeting Annually)
Cost: £10.00 per person

For more details on any of the events above please contact Fred Lovelock, scribe to the ASU.

fredlovelock@msn.com



Achievements

Chief Scout's Bronze Award



Bethan Belcher	12th Letchworth
Sam Cusden	12th Letchworth
Max Daly	8th Letchworth
Timothy Hartell	12th Letchworth
Freya Marshall	8th Letchworth
William Treagus	8th Letchworth
Oscar Trulock	12th Letchworth
Matthew Wiseman	8th Letchworth
Emma Wright	8th Letchworth

Chief Scout's Silver Award



George Gearing	1st Baldock (Knights)
Michael Rock	2nd Baldock
Thomas Ronayne	2nd Baldock
Ella Shawley	1st Baldock (Knights)
Daniel Townsend	7th Letchworth

Chief Scout's Gold Award



Stan Reader	8th Letchworth
Lewis Ryall	8th Letchworth
Francesca Stocker	8th Letchworth

WEDDING

Our congratulations to 2nd Baldock Beaver Leader John Hayward and Sarah-Jane who got married on the 24 March. A wonderful sunny day added a special touch for a special couple, aided by Josh and Emma 2nd Baldock Cubs!



DIARY 2012

ARIL

12	District Executive Meeting	DHQ
16	Wymondley Wood AGM	Wymondley Wood
17	Scout and Guide Scout Reopens	
18	District Team Meeting	Wymondley Wood
20	7th Letchworth AGM	Wilbury Hall
23	St George's Day Parade and Service	Catholic Church, Baldock
26	Scout & Guide Shop Meeting	District HQ

MAY

3	1st Ashwell AGM	
9	5th Letchworth AGM	5th Letchworth HQ
10	District AGM	District HQ
12	District Beaver Challenge	8th Letchworth HQ
12	SASU River Trip	
13	County Cub Football Competition	
14	District Cub Leaders' Meeting	
20	Letchworth Rotary Greenway Walk	
29	District Lochearnhead Meeting	Wymondley Wood

JUNE

14	District Executive Meeting	DHQ
24	District Scout Archery Competition	
25	County AGM	
26	District Beavers Bangers and Bash	Wymondley Wood
30	SASU General Meeting	

**Letchworth and Baldock
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