

# Co-Ordinator

## Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

### St George's Day Parade and Service



The collection in aid of Stillbirths & Neonatal Death charity (SANDS) raised over £200.

## District Scout Nightjar Competition

Nightjar is the Scout section's night hiking competition and is open to all Scouts. This year's event ran using a circular route near Buntingford and had fourteen teams entered: nine in the competing category and five in the training category. Training teams were accompanied by an adult.

Having a circular route allows teams to start from multiple bases simultaneously. This keeps the bases busy all the time and reduces the overall time for the event. The base activities included: go-kart racing, air guitar, hazardous waste handling, mind games and use of a trangia to make a hot drink. Teams were scored on the base activity, timing accuracy and behaviour.

On a cold, but clear night, 4<sup>th</sup> Letchworth were the best in the competing category: winning by two points from 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock. It was closer in the training category but 5<sup>th</sup> Letchworth Tigers came out on top by a single point from 1<sup>st</sup> Ashwell. Most troops entered at least one team, and, despite two teams getting comprehensively lost, they all seemed to enjoy themselves.

After being fed by members of our Active Support Unit, most of the Scouts got a reasonable amount of sleep at Buntingford Youth Centre.

Our only concern on the night was whether the minibuses had sufficient fuel. Luckily, one petrol station in Buntingford had diesel.

Thank you to all who took part, ran bases, marshalled, catered, drove minibuses and assisted in the planning. A great team effort!

**Gareth Howell – leader of the organising team**



**5th Letchworth  
Scouts - Tigers  
winners of the  
training category**

**A full list of results is  
available on the District  
website  
[www.lbdscouts.org.uk](http://www.lbdscouts.org.uk)**

## District Scout Nightjar Competition

This year was the second time I have competed in Nightjar and I was really looking forward to it. This year the routes were more challenging and the tasks were more fun. I think what made it better was that it was in a location that we didn't know. This made it more exciting as we didn't know what to expect. Last year the team I was in came second and this year my team won. We started at about 8:30 pm and finished at about 1:30 am. We then got a minibus back to a Scout hut and stayed there the night. My favourite activity was the go karting because it was quite easy to fall off which made it exciting. All of the activities used teamwork and most improved your skills in one way or another. For example, in the toxic waste activity you had to communicate to help the person with the blindfold to move the waste. It doesn't really matter how good you are at navigation because it's great fun even if you get lost. My team got lost once but found our way again and carried on. It is a great event for everyone and you should come next year.

**Thomas West - 4th Letchworth Scouts**



**4th Letchworth  
Scouts - winners  
of the competing  
category**

On 31 March, we took part in the Nightjar Competition . I was in Team E (Tigers). In the team with me were Ella, Callum, and Jared. We started at 8:50 pm near Cottered and we finished at about 1:45 am at the same place. We had a map to follow and we had to find our way to different bases. At each base there was a different activity that we had to do as a team. Some of the activities were making hot chocolate on a camping stove, using communication to direct objects and a quiz. My team didn't really get lost and we all enjoyed it and had a lot of fun. And to make the night even better, my team won out of the junior teams!

**Victoria Salisbury - 5th Letchworth Scouts**

## Murder Mystery Camp

### 1st Baldock Scouts



A Murder Mystery Camp was recently run by two of 1st Baldock older Scouts, Dan and Rennan (with a little tech support from Ashley).

I thought that on the whole, the camp was extremely successful. Although I did miss the second week, but the other weeks I participated in were great fun! All the wide games were superbly organised and exciting, and also the riddle night. The best night was, of course, the sleepover because it was awesome that we got to stay up late.

There were two things I thought Rennan and Dan could have improved. Firstly they could have narrowed down the suspects to maybe 5 or 6. Secondly I found the written clues a bit tricky to understand, but the videos were brilliant and so was the rest of the camp.

I definitely think that there should be another murder mystery camp. I rate the overall camp 9.999 out of 10.

**Thank you Dan and Rennan  
John Goward, Annie's patrol.**

I think it was very good for everyone. The events weren't too long but they were a bit complicated. I found it quite hard to take in all the films and understand all the clues. I liked running around in Weston Woods! I think the Murder Mystery was good. It was a cliff hanger each week until we got to the final week. The sleepover was good because I was next to my friends.

**Tom Holford**



## District Beaver Scout Day Out

### RAF Hendon



I really enjoyed my trip to Hendon. My favourite part was the 3D area because I got to see planes in 3D.

I like seeing the planes and countries where they came from. I also liked the Royal helicopter.

Thank you for taking me to the RAF Museum at Hendon.

**Ben  
8th Letchworth Beaver**

### **What a wonderful time we had on our Beaver District Day Out this year.**

The sun was shining, the birds were singing, everyone was on time...

Oh ok – I suppose I had better tell the truth really. The weather was lousy, the birds were huddling together for warmth and we were delayed for 20 minutes while a parent got themselves lost in Tesco car park.

BUT...

We really had a wonderful time on our Beaver District Day Out this year.

We gathered at Tesco to board the coaches for the short, straight-forward journey to RAF Hendon. (I had been told that it was "a bit like Duxford but without the runway").

The coaches only took 40 minutes to get there and parked right next to one of the exhibition buildings. The welcome was warm, the exhibits were fascinating and the Royal Flight Wessex helicopter was very **BRIGHT!**

All the children enjoyed working their way around the halls with their worksheets, making notes, discussing what they had found out, blowing a large, inflatable ball through a basketball hoop using a hoover or piloting a solo hanglider!

We finally all met together again, by the Lancaster Bomber for the usual pit stops before returning to the coach, when a lovely lady from the general public stopped me and asked if I was in charge of this group of children. With some trepidation, I replied that I was. She then said that she would like to compliment all the children and adults for their fantastic behaviour in and around the museum, as her family had arrived

when we had, she knew they had been there for a long time and that they were a credit to themselves and the Movement.

Then, to cap it all, all of the children were presented with their Air Activities badges by one of two flight-suited airmen. What a way to finish a super afternoon!

My thanks go to all the Leaders who made the trip a pleasure to run, but most of all to the Beavers who, despite the regular renditions of "Are we nearly there yet?" echoing around the coach on the way home, really made me proud to be their ADC.

**Vicki / Ocelot – ADC (Beaver Scouts)**





## A review of the 2012 District Scout and Guide Gang Show

Being offered a free seat at any Gang Show is a privilege not to be missed. And when it's Letchworth & Baldock back again at St Francis' Theatre, I was thrilled remembering the first time our Gang burst upon its stage, after two years doing "Our Show" at the old Co-op Hall in Eastcheap. I had heard about those, but not met the real thing, as happened in 1957. An

honorary member of the District Rover Crew, helping to paint large backcloths, I was soon drowning in the fun of it all. For a few years they let me join in on stage, unable to sing or dance but this didn't matter amid all the fun of it.

And that fun and enthusiasm still showed through, in that same theatre refurbished and given comfortable seats. Perhaps I missed the traditional red scarves and white shorts, but there were new tricks like the whole auditorium being swallowed in moving coloured lights, and all that loudspeaker music replacing the single piano. Perhaps there was a little too much of the new electronic magic, so that sometimes we couldn't hear the words in the sketches because the performers spoke too quickly and dropped their voices at the end. That was what usually happened in the shows I remember, so one of the old traditions still lives! Unfortunately the microphones don't make the speech clearer - only louder. There were never any microphones in the 1950's, and seeing them passed from hand to hand is not any improvement. A basic rule in any show is "Learn Your Lines!". We were not perfect in those days, and today's performers are upholding an old Gang Show tradition.

There was always another bit of fun which continues, as in any front-stage line-up, someone has to scratch their nose! It is part of Gang Show tradition. Long may it continue.

K.J.

### WYMONDLEY WOOD Scout and Guide Centre



Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre will be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of its opening in May 2013. Over the Bank Holiday weekend 24 - 27 May 2013 the District Scouts and Guides will be holding an event to mark this milestone.

Please mark these dates in your iPhone, Blackberry or your diary whether electronic or paper. If you would like to help with the organisation of the event, yet to be determined, please contact your ADC or Guide Leader.

## **8th Letchworth Cubs Stevenage Borough Football Club**

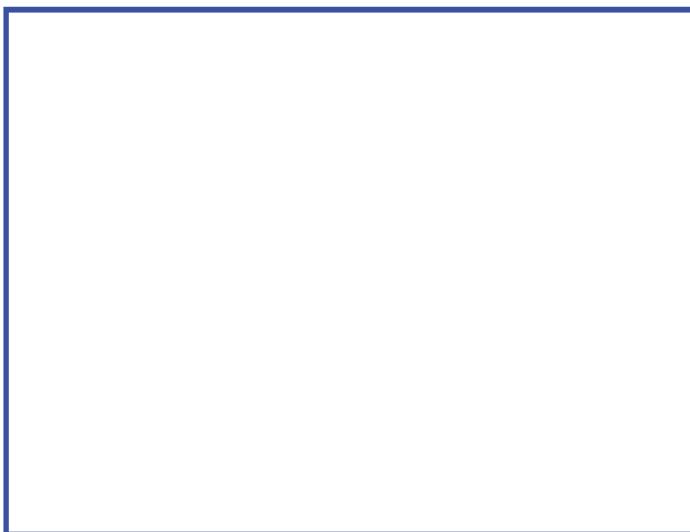


### **Football Match Report**

On the 21 April 2012 the Cubs took me to see Stevenage V Brentford at the Lamex Stadium. There were 4,256 spectators. The score was 2-1 to Stevenage. The players who scored were Reid 52, Freeman 61 and The Brentford scorer was Saunders 90. Freeman's goal was about 25 yards out and it went in the top left hand corner. Brentford also missed 2 penalties and hit the bar. The other hit the inside of the post and bounced to the Stevenage goalkeeper Day. The Brentford goalkeeper also made a good save. Stevenage also had quite a few one on ones. After that win Stevenage are 6<sup>th</sup> in the league with 69 points in the play-offs. I bought a programme and got two players autographs, and I also bought a scarf.  
I really enjoyed it. I would love to do it again.

**Thank you Aekla  
Harry Lewis - 8th Letchworth Cubs**

**Thank you to Stevenage Borough Football Club for donating 50 tickets to allow 8th Letchworth Cubs plus parents to have an enjoyable day and also to see Stevenage win against Brentford.**



**Parade Marshall "So, tell me where have all the Beavers gone".  
1st Ashwell Beaver " Gone to Church everyone"**

## Out and About with the Scout Active Support Unit

### District Scout Nightjar Competition

Just to show that we are still active, four members of the ASU set out for Buntingford in the late hours of Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March, and cooked over 100 sausages, plus soup and hot chocolate for the Scouts and Leaders taking part in Night Jar. We did not leave until 3.30 am. We dropped the sausages from our full English breakfast on that Sunday morning!

Thank you to a very tired group of Scouts for their please and thank you's.

It meant a lot to us four very tired ASU members.



**Sheila Tickner planner ASU**

### St George's Day Parade and Service



On the St George's day parade the lone figure of our manager Dynamic Dave paraded our new flag into St Augustine of Canterbury church Baldock, where during the service it was dedicated by Fr Denis Sarsfield. As the flag bearers approached the Altar two of our members Edmond Tickner and Peter Elmer were there to take the flags and put them into the rack. All the District flags displayed together made an impressive sight. When our flag came to be dedicated there was very nearly a disaster when it seemed it would be set alight by one of the candles on the Altar (there goes £150 or so pound I thought!). How ever it all worked out alright. It was a hearting sight to see so many of the District younger Scouts in the church celebrating the Day. To say the church was packed is a bit of a under statement. Thank you to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock for their organization and hospitably. Especially Mick Dilley who seemed to be everywhere overseeing that it all ran smoothly.

**Fred Lovelock scribe to the ASU.**



Hertfordshire Scouts  
investing in all young people



## 1st Baldock (Knights) Cub Winter Camp

17 - 19 February

### Things I enjoyed at camp.....

Making candles because it was something different

I enjoyed the cooking. I cooked the eggs and porridge using my Granny's secret ingredient! I even enjoyed the washing up with Raksha. I also liked toasting marshmallows on the fires that we made.

I liked camp because all my friends were there. I enjoyed the games and activities.

Playing the wide game because it was fun, playing chess because it was a challenge and fun, and watching Reece's magic tricks it was COOL.

I liked making the fires. It was exciting because I've never made one before. I enjoyed the wide game because it was a challenge to find the leaders and looking at the chickens because I've never seen so many chickens before.

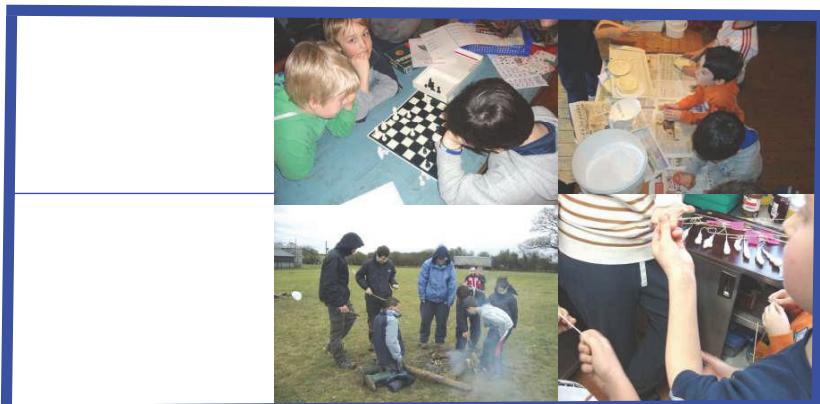
We liked playing the wide game because it was in the dark, going on walks because of the view and making candles.

I liked making the cutest candle in the world because I liked shaping it. I liked exploring the bushes because there were lots of different mazes. I also liked making breakfast.

I liked all the different jobs we had to do and information gathering. I also enjoyed watching the chickens. I also liked learning about the trees.

I enjoyed making the atmosphere gliders and plaster of paris. The best bit was when I set fire to the old rotten bits of log with only sparks and a couple of matches.

The rabbits were fun to do and sleeping in the hut.



# Achievements

## Chief Scout's Silver Award



Remarn Harmsworth 1st Baldock (Knights)

Stanley Sheekey 1st Baldock (Knights)

Daniel Townsend 7th Letchworth

## Chief Scout's Gold Award



Mash Calver 7th Letchworth

George Packham, 7th Letchworth

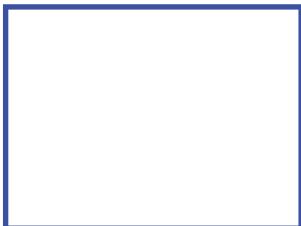
Kimberley Stevens 7th Letchworth



## A warm welcome to

Peter Rogers ACSL 8th Letchworth

Claire Taylor ABSL 12th Letchworth



**Letchworth and Baldock District  
Scouts wish Alan Wright a  
speedy recovery after a short  
stay in hospital.**



Congratulations to Sarah (nee Allen), ABSL 7th Letchworth and Wesley Cook on the birth of their bay boy Charles William Cook.

# DIARY 2012

## MAY

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	
21	Wymondley Wood Meeting	Wymondley Wood
21	11th Letchworth AGM	Group HQ, Rusby Mead
24	1st Ashwell AGM	TBA
29	District Lochearnhead Meeting	Wymondley Wood

## JUNE

5	Scout and Guide Shops closed for half term	
12	Scout and Guide Shop reopens	
14	District Executive Meeting	DHQ
24	District Scout Archery Competition	Wymondley Wood
25	County AGM	
25	Wymondley Wood Meeting	Wymondley Wood
24	District Beavers Bangers and Bash	Wymondley Wood
30	SASU General Meeting	Guide HQ, Icknield Way

## JULY

1	County Cub Go Karting
2	District Cub Leaders' Meeting
4	District Team Meeting

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BaLiNetwork Letchworth and Baldock Scout Network have launched their own website link  
<http://balinetwork.co.uk/>