

Co-Ordinator

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts



Wymondley Wood Scout & Guide Centre Celebrates Ten Years

Over the May Bank Holiday Weekend 25 - 27 May Wymondley Wood celebrate 10 years since the Centre was officially opened by the then Chief Scout, George Purdy and the Chief Guide, Jenny Leach. Over three hundred young people and fifty Leaders from the Scout and Guide Movements enjoyed two days of activities. On the Monday there was a barbecue for people who have been involved with Wymondley Wood during the ten years. Below are some comments made by some of the Leaders who attended.



Firstly the whole day was great, the kids had a brilliant time and there were lots of opportunities for them to try new things – they especially loved the Circus Skills!! The variety was great.



Just to say a huge thank you for yesterday. A really good District event that deserved to have been well oversubscribed.

My Cubs had a brilliant day. They had opportunity to do things that they liked, things that were challenges/fun/exciting/as a group/as individuals/working in pairs. They did many things that they had done before and many that they had not.

I really appreciate all the work and planning that went into such a superb day.

You had a fantastic range of people involved, I could easily have spent all day just chatting. It was a pleasure just to be there.

It was clear that you had thought of everything and there were only smiling faces to be seen all day.

Again thank you one and all from myself and my Cubs.

When shall we do it again?

First Baldock Beaver Scouts Wild West Sleepover



Yee Hah! Twenty five Beavers from both the Tuesday and Wednesday colony had a fantastic time up at Wymondley Woods on Friday 17 - Saturday 18 May. After the thrill of unpacking and settling into their dormitories, it was time to design some 'Wanted' posters; we were most amused and delighted at how many of their teachers had very large rewards

offered, but none of their Beaver Leaders! After their 'Rancher's Tucker' of Hot Diggity Dogs and Geronimo Jelly, there followed a wild west theme wide game in the woods. Our Scout Troop joined us for the evening and Scouts and Beavers alike enjoyed a good campfire and sing-song. Then it was bedtime....stay awake time? (Why do they call these things sleepovers?!!)

Saturday morning was jam-packed with making sheriff badges and dream-catchers (who would have thought a paper plate could be so decorative?), face-painting, archery, lasso throwing and cactus engraving. A quick performance of some of the more appropriate songs the Scouts had taught us to parents, then it was time to go home.

A huge thanks to all the adults - Leaders, parents, DCs who helped make this sleepover such a success.

11th Letchworth Beaver Scout

Hope Evans, Beaver Scout from 11th Letchworth was awarded her Creative Challenge and Imagination Badges for creating this wonderful book called " The 12th Birthday "

by using her imagination and creativeness.
I think we should keep an eye out for this young author in the future
Well done Hope



First Baldock Beaver Scouts Wild West Sleepover



This is what Jacey Rice aged nearly 8, had to say:

I had a wonderful time at the Beavers' Wild West sleepover. I really liked the singing around the campfire and the archery.

I enjoyed these the most because they were lots of fun. We sang so many songs and the fire was very warm and big!!

The archery was brilliant!! We got to use real bows and arrows just like Robin Hood. It was harder than I thought it would be and it made me laugh because I only hit the target once!!!

The sleepover was fantastic and I will miss being able to go on one again.

By Jacey Rice

1st Baldock Beaver Scouts

Scout Active Support

Sunday 28 July a Garden Party at the Manager's house ,
4 Sanderling Close, Letchworth Garden City

Sunday 1 September "Fred's Cream Teas" from 15:00 hrs to
18:00 hrs £5.00 at the gate, 19 Campers Road, Letchworth

Further details contact Sheila Tickner:
Sheila.edmond@virginmedia.com

We have been very busy helping out at the Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre 10th Anniversary Celebrations Weekend by providing refreshments to the Leaders and to the young people over the weekend. On the Saturday one of our member, stepped in, to help with the fairy cake icing and enjoyed helping the young people.

On Wednesday 19 June we were again at Wymondley Wood, this time helping with the parking and serving the "bangers" to the Beaver Scouts attending this year's District Bangers and Bash.



Shelterbox Charity Scavenger Hunt

8th Letchworth Scout Group

Three Leaders, one Young Leader, two Scouts and three Cub Scouts all caught the 6.55 am train to London to take part in the Shelterbox scavenger hunt. We made our way to Baden Powell House, where we were given our box, a set of instructions, a marker pen and a map. Then we set off to solve the clues.

As we were a Cub team, we had a smaller box to carry. Which was a relief as all three Cubs would have fitted inside the larger boxes !

Our journey took in some famous sites including the Albert Hall, Kensington Palace and the museums.

The two team challenges involved matching photos of 14 counties that Shelterbox has been active in with their names and climbing through an elastic band without touching it !

Once we had finished we cooled off with an ice cream and went to see the Princess Diana memorial.

We returned to Baden Powell house for the presentations and to our delight found out that we had won. We each received a rucksack full of goodies that included a head torch, a t-shirt, pen, note pad and badges.

It was a long tiring day but very very enjoyable.

On Saturday Ed, Millie and me from 8th went on a Shelterbox scavenger hunt with Cubs in London. We went on the train and tube to get there. We got given a map and a big plastic shelter box to carry with us. Then we walked around London raising awareness while finding clues. We also did challenges like answering questions and doing activities like matching counties pictures to their names and fitting five people through an elastic band without touching it.

Later we had a presentation and our team came first. We won a rucksack with a pen, note pad T-shirt, head torch and a bouncy ball and three badges. We had an ice cream and headed home. My favourite bit of the day was all of it, it was really fun. Thanks you Leaders for taking us.

By Josh

On Saturday 8th June, Ed, Josh and me had to wake up at 6 o'clock in the morning to catch the 7 o'clock train to London. It took us a long time to get to London! But it was for the Shelterbox scavenger hunt so it was worth it. When we got there we had to walk a very long way to the start. After signing up we were given a box from Shelterbox to raise awareness and a map. I learnt that Shelterbox help people who have no home. My favourite part was looking for the clues in London and doing the activities to earn points. The first challenge we got all the questions right and got 70 points and on the second we also got all right getting 100 points. At the end we had a presentation and they said 8th Letchworth Cubs (that's us) had won the competition. We won a big rucksack, a pen, note pad, head torch, a T shirt and lots of badges. It was a brilliant day. Thank you

By Millie

Wymondley Wood 10th Anniversary Activity Weekend and Barbecue

Just a quick line to say Thank You to you and all the team who helped with the WW 10 Year Celebration Weekend. It was a pleasure to be involved and I know that all the young people had a fantastic time.

The range of activities was fab.

There was never a dull moment – not even queuing, as they could do a small activity while they waited.

We delivered back 22 extremely tired but happy young people to their parents tonight.





8th Letchworth Scouts



Over the past few weeks the Scouts have been learning to play Quidditch for their Fitness Challenge. We held the Tournament at Wymondley Wood. The wind dropped and the rain held off. All played well - the Beaters aimed the Bludgers with true accuracy, the Chasers managed to get the Quaffle past the Keepers a few times but defending was strong and the Golden Snitch was completely

exhausted (Thanks Charlie!) after being chased continuously by the Seekers over the whole campsite, round and round the wet weather shelter and outdoor store and through the bushes. Eventually he collapsed in a heap and the Golden Snitch was snatched. The Players dismantled their brooms and finished off the cake from last weekend's camp before heading back to Letchworth as the sun went down.

8th Letchworth Scouts - Backwoods Camp at Phasels

We're back from another amazing backwoods camp over the weekend at Phasels Wood. On the first night the older Scouts taught the new Scouts how to site and pitch their tents and how to chop wood and cook on fires.

On Saturday they built shelters and packed their tents away. They tried out new cooking methods like eggs in potatoes in the smouldering ashes (they take at least 3 hours!), cookies baked in the camp oven, pancakes (not very successful as the egg went missing!) and also tried and tested old methods (pasta in the dutch oven and baked potatoes and mars bar stuffed bananas in the hot ashes) A group of them went off geocaching for a while and managed to find five more to add to our tally and Peter helped some of them build an enormous hammock after much begging.

In the evening we played a variation of the Lighthouse Game in the woods then the Scouts wrapped up warm and spent the night in their bivvies. Rachel, Mae and Lauren had a visiting squirrel who soon ran off when he realised his home had been invaded (although it may have been the strange odours from a weekend of woodsmoke and dirt that made him scarper ;))

On Sunday everyone helped cook breakfast and clear up and the DC paid us a visit. When it was all packed away they had a game of Ultimate Frisbee until their parents arrived to take them home.

Well done everyone for another brilliant camp



5th Letchworth Scouts

As our contribution to the annual Scouting Community Week, the Scouts agreed to help out with some weeding at a local nature reserve. Ivel Springs is located just to the north of Baldock and is the source of the River Ivel, which flows into the River Great Ouse and the North Sea!

The task was to hack down all the vegetation that had grown up around some saplings that were planted in February of last year. Armed mainly with shears, they set to work. Initially the question was "*Are we doing this all evening?*", but this was soon forgotten as they set to, ferreting out hidden trees and dispatching offending weeds. Eventually they had to be stopped so they could have a cuppa, but they soon went back to work again.

Phil Charsley coordinated our efforts and made tea, for which we were all very grateful.

Thanks to all the Scouts, Leaders, and even a parent, who joined in to help.



One Sunday in June several Leaders and parents spent a happy day directing cars at Old Warden Airfield, home of the Shuttleworth Collection. We were there as the guests of The Shuttleworth Foundation, who kindly offered Scout Groups the opportunity to raise funds in return for some light graft.

In attendance were myself, Nick Howell (ASL), Helen Doherty (ASL), Stiofan Doherty (YL), Geoff Smith (ASL), Sam Nobbs (YL), George Lucas (YL), Andrew Kitching (Parent and Exec member) and Simon (Scout). Special thanks go to Sam and George as they were doing most of the running about.

I'd also like to pass on my thanks to Valerie Green and Colin Reynolds from The Shuttleworth Foundation, who organised and looked after us on the day.

Oh, and we raised £200 and got to watch the air display at the end of the day

Gareth Howell



Cubjam 2013 - Gilwell Park

In May Half Term a team of Leaders took 29 Letchworth & Baldock Cubs to Cubjam 2013 at Gilwell Park. The theme for the camp was Pirates and we were on Green Sub Camp Victory!! The week started with fabulous weather. Sun hats and sun cream were needed.

The Cubs had a great time on the inflatable "it's a knockout games", some were dry and some were wet and bubbly it was really good to watch even the quiet one having a good time.

There were lots of different activities for them to have a go at over the week. Each Cub was given their own passport so they could keep a record of the things they had done, 3G swing, grass sledging, the revolving wall, Zorbing to name a few but there was lots more.

Cubjam's Got Talent was one of the highlights of the week when Letchworth & Baldock got into the final. Singing a version of a Wave from Gang Show they sang their hearts out. Well done to those who took part. I thought you should have won! You were fantastic.

The rain came on the Tuesday. With a severe weather warning of high winds and heavy rain, we battened down the tents before we went to bed and hoped for the best!! Then the rain and wind began for the next two days and nights but it didn't dampen down our spirits in true Scouting we carried on.

Wednesday was a trip into London to the Science Museum and a coach tour of some of the London sights.

Thursday was carnival day and a chance to do some of the activities we hadn't already had a go at. After lunch it was Carnival time and all three sub camps paraded in front of the White House at Gilwell Park with cannons going off and pirates singing behind. It was very loud and very exciting. Then the fun really began at the fun fair the Cubs were given tokens to have free goes on the fair ground attraction and side shows. You could win blue token to get prizes. The Cubs had hot dogs, drinks and a few hours of extra fun and excitement. At least the rain stopped !!

Friday and time to go home the sun is shining and everyone is happy but tired. Everyone helped to take the tents down then we were ready to go home.

I would like to thank all of the Leaders who came to Cubjam because without their help it wouldn't have happened. Here's looking forward to Cubjam 2016 The Wild West.

Amanda Woolmer Contingent Leader

I really enjoyed Cubjam – especially It's a Knockout, Revolving Wall and Zorbing.
I was a bit nervous because I didn't know very many people who were going, but I made loads of friends and the Leaders were all really nice.
I learnt some new songs, had some late nights, got filthy dirty....and had lots of fun!

Nick Dyne

In May half term I went on Cubjam - a six night camp at the Scout Headquarters, which is Gilwell Park. There were over 1,000 Cubs at Cubjam, and about thirty fun activities. There was a huge swing called a "3G swing", a revolving climbing wall, grass sledging and much more. My favourite activity was the revolving wall. I really enjoyed the day out to London - we went to the Science Museum.

I loved sleeping under canvas. The nights were quite cold but once we were inside our sleeping bags we became a bit warmer.

Cubjam was great fun. If you get a chance to go next time, I'd definitely recommend it.

Toby Collins

In May half term I went with 28 other Cubs from Letchworth and Baldock to Cubjam. We camped for 6 nights at Gilwell park. We were put into groups and spent the day times doing different activities. On the first day we had an 'Its a Knockout' competition with inflatable activities that had water and bubbles all over them. It was really fun. There was a 3G swing, which was my favorite because it went really high and fast. I also did jump mats, go-carting and a grass trail. During the week I was asked to take part in Cubjam's Got Talent. Me and some other Cubs from Gang Show performed 'Crest of a Wave'. We did very well and got to the final, which meant we had to sing again. Each day we enjoyed lots of different food and had to help with the washing up. On the Thursday we all went into London and visited the Science museum. I have been before but it was still fun. On the last day we had a pirate carnival during the morning. It was very busy as all the Cubs were in the same place at once. We were chanting our Subcamp name at all the other groups. That evening there was a fair and we were allowed to go on all the rides as often as we wanted. Some of the Leaders even went on the giant inflatable slide. At first I was very worried about being away from home, but I made lots of new friends and really enjoyed myself.

Ellie Hill, 8th Letchworth



Diary 2013

JULY

7	County 'On Yer Bike' fund raiser	Oaklands College
6 / 7	Kon Tiki - Scout Section Rafting Challenge	
11	District Executive Meeting	
13 / 14	Gilwell 24	
14	County Beaver Scout Cyclo Cross	
14	District Cub Scout Bell Boating	
16	Scout & Guide Shop Closes for the summer break	
20	Lions Day	Broadway Gardens
28	Scout Active Support Unit Garden Party	29 Sanderling Close
29	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	

SEPTEMBER

5	Scout & Guide Shop Reopens	
12	District Executive Meeting	
18	District Beaver Scout Orienteering	Fairlands Valley
21 / 22	County Cub Scout Night Hike	
25	District Scout Leaders Meeting	
27/ 29	County Scout Born 2B Challenged	
30	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	

Achievements

Chief Scout's Bronze Award



Nathan Bolton	8th Letchworth
Maddi Harper	8th Letchworth
Callum Lawrence	8th Letchworth
Oakley Sayer	8th Letchworth
Hannah Treagus	8th Letchworth

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