

Issue 607
October 2013
Co-Ordinator



Liz Taplin (Dragonfly) being invested as the new ADC (Beavers) by Hartley, DC, at the District Beavers' Orienteering evening at Fairlands Valley, Stevenage.

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

**7th Letchworth Scout
Group
75th Anniversary**

On 7 September 7th Letchworth (St Thomas') Scouts, Cubs and Beavers spent the weekend in London. The fundraising had gone well and the gang were ready for adventure.

The Beavers and Cubs stayed on the Golden Hinde which was the ship that took Sir Francis Drake around the world.

They had a great time learning all about Tudor times and life on board the ship. Sleeping on the gun deck was great fun and one Cub reported that "my favourite bit was when the man told us how to saw someone's leg off"

Sunday morning it was off to the London Eye. Fantastic views on a lovely sunny morning.

The Scouts travelled by train, tube, boat and cable car around London. Deeley boppers were the fashion accessory of the day. The Scouts climbed to the top of St Paul's, all 1070 steps and checked out Traitors' Gate at the Tower of London.

Dinner was cooked on trusty tranguias on the Embankment which entertained the passers by and encouraged other Scouts to stop for a chat.

Swimming in the Serpentine lido in Hyde Park was the challenge for Sunday morning and then on the coach with the Beavers and Cubs for the journey home.

It was a fantastic weekend for everyone involved, making memories that will last a lifetime.

Clair Calver

7th Letchworth Beavers and Cubs on the Golden Hinde



On Saturday 7th September 2013 the Beavers and Cubs climbed aboard a coach and set off for the bright lights of London. Our destination was The Golden Hinde in Tudor aged London. The ship carried Sir Francis Drake around the world and safely home again.

When we arrived we put on the costumes of Barber Surgeons, Gunners or Officers. We met the Master Barber Surgeon and the Captain who showed us how the crew slept, ate and worked on board the ship. We had Tudor style dinner of rice and vegetables and drank beer (apple juice) from tankards.

After dinner it was time to fight the Spaniards. They were attacking our ship and we needed to fire the cannon, operate on the wounded and dodge the incoming cannon balls. Having had such expert training, the battle was won and then it was time for bed.

There were no cosy bunks for our hardened sailors. They slept on the floor of the gun deck amongst the cannons and the ropes.

Sunday morning returned us to 2013 and after breakfast it was off to the London Eye. On the way along the Embankment we bounced up and down on the wobbly Millennium Bridge, saw St Paul's Cathedral, Tate Modern and lots of boats on the Thames.

The London Eye was fantastic with great views on a lovely sunny, clear day. The Beavers and Cubs spotted lots of sights near and far.

Simon. "I went to have a sleepover on the Golden Hinde. It was an awesome weekend and I really enjoyed it! We learned about life on the ship and my favourite part was sleeping on board."

Dominik. "I slept on the Golden Hinde. It was small and I don't know how they got 80 people on it."

Daniel. "I thought the Golden Hinde was very good. I liked sleeping on the gun deck. I liked the London Eye because it went really high and you could take really good pictures."



Samuel. "My experience on the Golden Hinde was amazing. The best thing I did was sleep on the gun deck."

Felix. "I enjoyed going on the London Eye because I could see nearly all of London. On the Golden Hinde, my favourite bit was when the man told me how to saw someone's leg off."

Scouts!

7th Letchworth Scout Group 75th Anniversary

In high
spirits, 22
Scouts, 6
Leaders and 3
Young Leaders

amassed at Letchworth
Station early on the 7th September.

The long awaited weekend had arrived. Many hours of planning and scheming, letters and phone calls, grant applications and fund raising events, risk assessments and policy checking were about to be put in practise.

First Capital Connect not only gave us reduced travel tickets but an escort to Kings Cross from where we merged seamlessly into the underground crowds. Deeley boppers bounced, Leaders clucked and the anticipation grew. On to St Paul's Cathedral and the 1070 steps up (and down) to the amazing view point from the Golden Gallery. The weather was good for us and we could see from the westward Wembley Arches to the eastern edge of town.

So far so good.

A gentle stroll followed, along the north embankment River Walk down to the Tower of London. The weather was turning to fine drizzle, nothing 7th Letchworth couldn't handle. The intention of catching the Clipper ferry to the O2 was delayed by a rowing race, this led to lunch by the Tower, inspection of Traitors' Gate and a near entanglement in an EDL march.

Catching the ferry from the Millennium Pier we went down river to the Emirates Air lift for another up and over view. From here we could see the Thames Flood defences, the city airport and Canary wharf. Some cable cars were thoroughly checked for the 'bouncability' and swing potential. Isaac was giggly, Rebecca was terrified and Andy was incorrigible.

Now back up river to the HMS Belfast.

After the Naval safety talk and collection of our cooking equipment, we required feeding. In true Scouty style we used our stoves to make a wholesome, if not quite enough, pasta meal, cooking on the embankment in the dark. Joel provided the lighting and entertainment.

After tea, we returned to the HMS Belfast and our dormitories deep in the bow end with port-hole windows and three tier bunks. No ghosts just a noble ship creaking and the tide sloshing. It was warm and cosy and just a little bit different.

Up and ready early.

Sunday morning after the ship's breakfast we learnt about life onboard through war times. When we left the HMS Belfast was still afloat, now that's an achievement!

The finale

Catching the tube to Hyde Park we were going to the Serpentine Lido. Was it just the autumnal weather that was making some of our group reluctant to dip their toes in the murky waters? In the end, even Abigail and Carolyn embraced the adventure and took a swim.

Lunch on the grass was followed by a fast walk through a heavy down pour in order to meet to the Cubs and Beavers for the coach home.

I think we all had an excellent time on a Scouting adventure. Memory building.



District Beaver Orienteering - Fairlands

Orienteering event at Fairlands
 Valley Stevenage. They were here with
 , as well as pets to take part in the

After a rocky start, some unable to find the first marker, a Scout Leader (who had no choice but to attend) helped them to the first post. They were off and there was no stopping them. Soon we saw the colour turquoise, all around the area many with mums and dads running after them.

After finishing the course the Beavers still had energy to go climbing on the play equipment before receiving their certificates.

Meerkat



**8th Letchworth and
Countryfile**

To 8th Letchworth Cubs and Scout

Matt Baker
Countryfile.



**11th Letchworth Beaver Scouts
Visit
Pets@Home**

We were welcomed to the store by Warren, who explained to the Beavers that they would see lots of animals, and with some of the animals they would have to be really, really quiet so that the animals did not get frightened. Warren showed us a snake that was a pink colour and small but it wiggled a lot. Then one at a time we got to stroke a baby rabbit and then we watched it hop around the middle of the bales of hay. We asked lots of questions and found out lots of things about the snake and the baby rabbit... We all went around the corner to



see the fish. We had to find out which ones were cold water fish and which ones were tropical fish.... We all had a very nice time and we wanted to take some of the animals home with us but Woodchuck would not let us. If you would like to book a visit please email lethworthpetsathome.co.uk

**11th Letchworth Beaver Scouts Visit
Postal Pursuits**

11th Letchworth Beaver Scouts visited Postal Pursuits in the Arcade in Letchworth on Monday 16 September.

We were welcomed by Thomas and Rachel. The Beavers were given challenges all to do with stamps. Covering the world in stamps, finding which country some stamps belonged

to, finding stamps that had flowers on or animals just to name a few. The colony had a very enjoyable evening with Thomas and Rachel. Thomas would like to invite all sections in the District to come and find out more about the world of stamps. If you would like to book a visit the details are below.

**Woodchuck
11th Letchworth
Beavers**

Thomas Humfrey
01462 485990
thomas@postal-pursuits.com



8th Letchworth Scout Group The Big Tidy Up

On the 14 September 8th Letchworth Scouts and Beavers took part in The Big Tidy Up. An event that sees people in their local area get their pickers at the ready and go litter picking.

It was a enjoyable morning. Everyone had lots of fun and felt a real sense of achievement. Altogether we collected 28 bin bags of litter. All that rubbish just walking around the Grange recreation ground. We found lots of wrappers, bottles, packets and glass.

Everyone had a very enjoyable morning and had fun helping the community.

Jay lamb



Message on Postal Pursuits Facebook page

Last night we had a visit from a local Letchworth Garden City Beaver Colony. The children, 23 of them, came to work on their 'Global' badge through stamp related activities. See if you can work out the 'themed' letter they used and which one had 3 ways of working... clever Beavers.



**11th Letchworth Beaver
Scouts Visit
Baldock Fire Station**

11th Letchworth Beavers enjoyed an evening with the Baldock fire crew. They showed the Beavers around the building, the kitchen, gym, TV room, dormitories , the locker room. But best of all the Beavers got to go in the Fire Engine, playing with all the lights and sirens , the cutting machine and the huge axes and sledge hammers. After all that excitement the Beavers got to play who could get WoodChuck soaked with the water hoses.

If any section would like to book a visit please call Baldock fire station on 01462 666900 week days between 9 am and 1 pm.



Over the summer holidays twenty one Young Leaders have completed their first aid training.

Eight Explorer Scouts completed their Explorer Belt Expedition in Gibraltar / Morocco. The Explorer Scouts will be fixing a date sometime in November to make their final presentation.



**County Beaver Fun Day
Paradise Wildlife Park**

Several Beavers and their families from 8th Letchworth joined Beavers from around the County to spend the day at this year's County Beaver Family Fun Day at Paradise Wildlife Park.

They had the opportunity to attend talks including ones about wildlife conservation and animal habitats. There were also regular keeper talks at all the animal enclosures and special shows throughout the day.

Tractor rides and train rides, hundreds of animals to look at and loads of play areas – what more could a Beaver ask for !

Ryan and Astra were both invested. Ryan chose the white lion viewing platform and Astra chose the white tiger viewing platform. Truly memorable locations for them !

It was a fantastic day out and great value for money. I thoroughly recommend this trip to all the Beavers and their families.

Next year it is on Sunday 28th September 2014

Dragonfly



**A New Grant
Programme at the
Heritage Foundation**

The Heritage Foundation has introduced three new types of grant.

1. The '**General Grant**' category is a grant up to £50,000 for any not for profit local organisation working to enhance and support the quality of life of Letchworth residents. The grant is very flexible. It can be used for capital or revenue costs, such as salaries, equipment and the training of staff and volunteers. It also includes support for community events and festivals.
2. The '**Be The Best**' category is a grant of up to £1,000 for talented individuals or groups to develop their skills and talents. The grant can be used to cover costs associated with coaching or training programmes, setting up an academy, buying new equipment, funding educational sessions, travel and accommodation or building on an existing gifted and talented programme.
3. The '**Club Together**' grant is a grant of up to £500 for groups with elderly or retired members, residents groups and for charities or voluntary organisations supporting these groups. The grants can be used to buy new equipment, fund a lunch or social event, hire a venue or pay for recreational activities such as IT, art classes or guest speakers.

How to apply.

To apply for a grant you will need to complete an application form which will be available on the grants section of the Heritage Foundation Website.

<http://www.lethworth.com/heritage-foundation/grants>

The application form is also available from the Tourist Information Centre, The Community Hub or by telephoning 01462 476057

Please remember during any single financial year you can only receive one grant payment, but if a further need arises after a successful application, do get in touch.

The deadlines

General Grant

4 October 2013
31 January 2014
2 May 2014
27 June 2014
31 October 2014

Be The Best

4 October 2013
28 March 2014
11 April 2014
26 September 2014

Club Together

4 October 2013
28 February 2014
14 March 2014
30 May 2014
26 September 2014

Please inform Hartley, District Commissioner, if you are applying for one of these grants.



Chief Scout's Bronze Award

James Baguley	4th Letchworth
Jasmine Bagenal	12th Letchworth
Thomas Beardall	12th Letchworth
Heather Cobb	12th Letchworth
Amy Garrod	12th Letchworth
Hannah McCabe	12th Letchworth
Sarah Malone	4th Letchworth
Aidan Tyan	4th Letchworth
Alfie Scaplehorn	12th Letchworth
Daisy Winchester	12th Letchworth
Fabian Migdal	4th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Silver Award

Thomas Blythe	7th Letchworth
Oliver Gobey	7th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Gold Award

Adam Chilvers	4th Letchworth
Fabio Maii	4th Letchworth
Madeline Powell	4th Letchworth
William Rodway	4th Letchworth
Morgan Sykes	1st Baldock
Lukas Wait	4th Letchworth
Thomas West	4th Letchworth

Diary 2013

OCTOBER

10	District Executive Meeting	
13	County Gr8 Big B@sh	Phasels
20	County Cyclo Cross - Cub Scouts	
20	District Cub Day Out	Drayton Manor
18 / 19	County Peak Assault - Explorer Scouts	
19	District Cub Scout Day Out	
24	Scout & Guide Shop Meeting & A.G.M.	District HQ
26	District SASU Quiz Night	Guide HQ
28	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting	Wymondley Wood

NOVEMBER

9	District Arts & Craft Exhibition
10	Remembrance Sunday
14	District Executive Meeting
16	District SASU Bowling and Meal
15 / 17	County Green Beret - Scouts
22	District Cub Quiz
25	Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting

DECEMBER

1	8th Letchworth Christmas Fair
12	District Executive Meeting
14	District SASU Christmas Buffet
17	District Scout & Guide Shop Closes for Christmas

JANUARY 2014

13	District Cub Leaders' Meeting
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Morgan Sykes - 1st Baldock Scout
being presented with his Chief Scout's
Gold Award from Chris King, DC

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Correction.

Some of you might have spotted the mistake on page 6 of September's edition of Co-ordinator. If not here is the correction Nick Howells' son is called Felix and not Flexi. Apologies for the error.