

Issue 608
November 2013
Co-Ordinator



Jamboree Selection Results

We were really pleased to have received nine applications from around the District for a place at the 2015 Japan Jamboree. Having read them all through, we could see a problem. We only have four places. The panel was going to have to make some really tricky decisions.

On Friday 11 October we invited all the applicants to District Headquarters for a selection evening. They were all introduced to the panel of five, Phil Charsley (District Treasurer), Peter Elmers (GSL, 8th Letchworth), Chris King (District Explorer Scout Commissioner), Hayley Palmer (Network) and Simon Tierney (District Training Administrator).

Joe Hartley (Network) attended and put the Scouts and Explorers through some tough team and individual exercises. They all did really well. They then had a brief meeting with the panel where they were asked to make a presentation in two minutes on why they wanted to go to Japan for the World Jamboree.

The quality of all nine applicants shone through and the panel had to think long and hard about their decision. Eventually, the following four young people were chosen represent Letchworth & Baldock District Scouts and the UK at The World Jamboree in Japan in 2015.

Christian Allen, 7th Letchworth Scouts

Daniel Barnicott, Oak Eagle
ESU (formerly 1st Baldock)

Helen Inman, Oak Eagle ESU
(formerly 1st Baldock)

Rebecca Maynard, Oak
Eagle ESU (formerly 1st Ashwell)

Now the work starts to raise the funds required to send our young people to Japan. We will be looking for a massive effort from across the District and will be asking for any ideas or offers of help for fund raisers.

Please contact Hartley, District Commissioner at dc@lbdscouts.org.uk

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

**County Beaver Fun
Day - A Beaver view
from 8th Letchworth**

I went to Paradise Wildlife [Park](#) with my Mum and Dad and Charlie and his family. I hand fed the goats with special food bought from the shop but the big one kept nudging the baby one out of the way. I went into the bird aviary with Charlie and our Dads to feed the birds. I didn't like it when one landed on my head. I saw lots of animals, lions, camels, meerkats, monkeys and even a huge snake yuk, but I did have a lovely day. My favourite part was when they let the big tortoise out and I got to touch one.

Maddi

On Saturday 28 September my family and I went to Paradise Wildlife Park. Beavers from all over the County were there enjoying looking at all the animals and going to talks to earn badges.

Out of all the animals that I saw my favourites were the white lions. There were four of them and one was a cub. It was by their enclosure that I chose to be invested so I could become a proper Beaver.

Two of my Beaver friends were holding the flag while I said my Promise with Dragonfly. My parents were so proud.

I went to two talks and did a woodland walk and saw some interesting things and learnt a lot. It was such a fun day at Paradise Wildlife Park but the best thing is, I am now officially a Beaver !

Ryan

We had the most wonderful day at Paradise Wildlife Park. The talks at the discovery centre were very interesting. I was invested in front of the white tigers. What a lovely day!

Astra



**Thames Pathway
Challenge 2013
Ian Taplin**

I left home on Saturday 14 September to catch the 6:55 am train to London. I was heading for Putney Bridge and the start line. My allotted start time was 09:45 but I had to be there one hour before to fill out the forms required.

After being called to the start pen at 09:30 am we were given a warm up by a fitness instructor. Then it was off for a little 100 km walk along the Thames Path ending at Henley on Thames.

The kilometres seemed to go nice and quickly for the first 50 km as there were lots of people walking and lots to see on the river. The majority of walkers only did a 50 km walk.

After stopping for some hot food and a change of socks it was off again towards Henley. At the 60 km mark I caught up with a man from Warwick who had started an hour before me and we walked the next 40 kms together. This was a real help during the night.

By the time I had reached the 87 km check point my feet had started to blister (I had large blisters on the balls of both feet) , but never mind it was onwards to Henley.

My wife (Dragonfly-ADC Beavers) really appreciated a call at 3 am to tell her I was on the last leg.

I was very happy to see my wife waiting at the finish line and proud to have finished the walk in 19 hrs .

A very big thank you to everyone who sponsored me and helped me to raise £775 for the Alzheimer's Society.

Ian Taplin
ACSL 8th Letchworth

Be prepared - an important date for your 2014 diary / ipad / smart phone / web-site. The St George's Day Parade and Service will take place on Sunday 27 April 2014.

Parade Assembly Point:

Howard Park Gardens

Time:

2.15 pm

Church:

**Letchworth Garden City
Church, Icknield Way**

Service:

3.00 pm

Dismiss

Time:

Norton Common

4.00 pm



If you have a feeling of de ja vu, then you are right, same venue, route and times as last year.

Chris King's Farewell Presentation



During Chris's time as District Commissioner the District had:

- two successful expeditions to Lochearnhead
- the renovation of the District HQ and subsequent hire to other organisations
- increase in the District numbers by 26%.
- Six Queen's Scouts
- the replacement of the minibus
- and much much more.....

Chris being presented with a Scout fountain pen and a Scout hat.



Members from across the District enjoyed a relaxing afternoon party of tea and cakes at the District HQ. The event was to celebrate adult achievement in the District. First and foremost was a presentation to outgoing District Commissioner, Chris King and a bouquet to Sue for her support. Tony Hartley, our new District Commissioner, thanked Chris for his outstanding service. He highlighted the strong growth of membership during his time in post and the wide variety of exciting and adventurous activities made available to our Scouts culminating in our fantastic

Lochearnhead expeditions.

Tony also presented Service Awards starting with a five year award to Liz Taplin, who in that short time has already risen to ADC (Beavers) and culminating with a 40 year award to ex District Commissioner, Bob Williams who has now taken on the role of District President.

See page 10 & 11 for names of all other recipients of Service Awards.

Helen Doherty, ASL 5th Letchworth was presented with her Wood Badge and Janet Conder was thanked for her role as District Secretary.

**Up Up and Away
DC takes to the air**

Our adventurous new DC Hartley and Paul Northover from 4th Letchworth Scouts, went for a plane ride on Sunday 6 October to mark the end of the season at Shuttleworth in Old Warden. A thank you from Shuttleworth for help manning the car parking during this season.



Left to Right
Paul Northover, Pilot and
Tony Hartley



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER 213

Baldock

As is now customary, a Service of Remembrance will be held at the Baldock Town War Memorial in the High Street, starting with a two minute silence at 11.00 hrs. Please gather in front of Zeus Restaurant on the High Street at 10.15 am prompt.

Ashwell

14:15 hrs Ashwell Beavers, Cubs, Scouts gather at the war memorial in the village (at the end of the recreation ground at the east end of the village)

14:30 hrs Service, and laying of wreaths

14:50 hrs March off to the Church

15:00 hrs Church Service at St Mary's

**Remembrance Sunday
10 November 2013**

The arrangements for this year's Remembrance Sunday Service are slightly different to previous years for Letchworth Garden City.

We met with representatives from The Royal British Legion and Lee Boswell, the town centre manager, and have made the following arrangements.

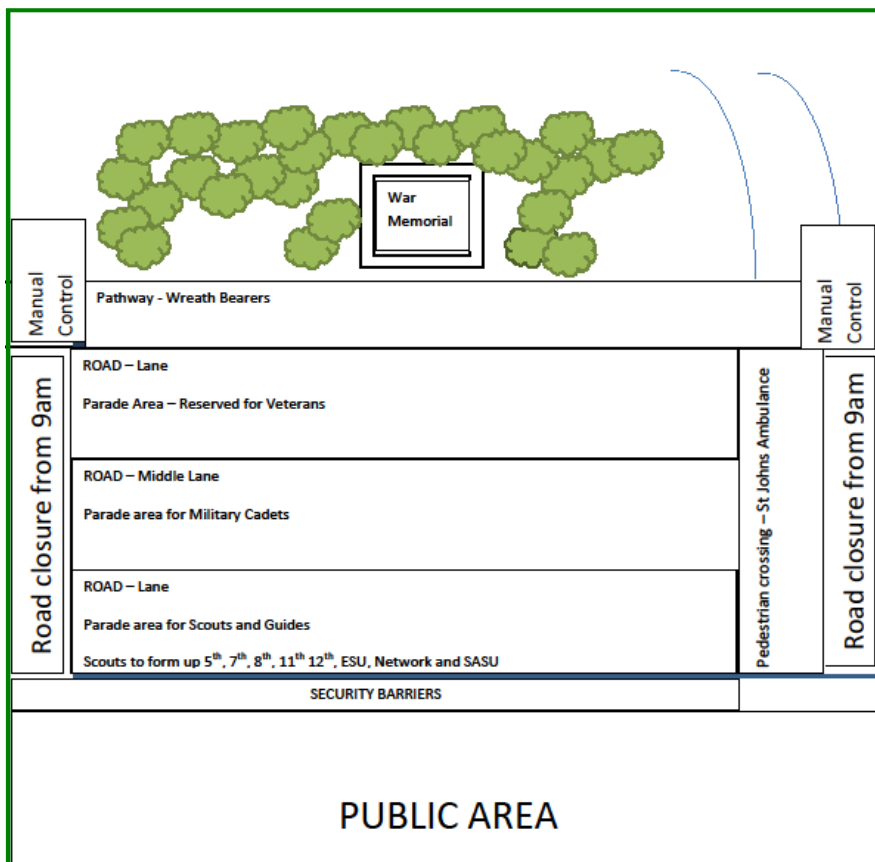
Please assemble at 10.15 am within the area that will be cordoned off for us as shown on the schematic drawing. Only the colour parties need to go to the station forecourt and form up. We will need some Leader involvement in

both areas.

Please form up at the area nearest The Broadway starting with 5th Letchworth and progressing through 7th, 8th, 11th and 12th and Oak Eagles ESU. Please form with Beavers at the front, then working backwards with Cubs, Scouts, Oak Eagles ESU, Scout Network and SASU. Please get the shorter ones in the front etc. The reserved area is shown on the attached drawing and is basically the road lane nearest to the Nat West Bank leaving the pavement area for the public.

The Guides will also be joining us in this area.

For Baldock and Ashwell see page 5



**Karen Onslow Family
Challenge
1st Baldock Scout Group**

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Young Leaders, Leaders, executive committee and parents of 1st Baldock all had fun on Saturday 28 September taking part in our Karen Onslow Family Challenge. On a beautiful autumn day, families set off on their route-finding challenge in the countryside north of Baldock, armed with map, plastic bag, instruction sheet and the most essential of survival devices...a mobile phone! In addition to actually following a route, there were a number of questions to be answered en route (how many people know whose family helped restore Norton Church Lych gate?), a tree to be climbed, weird and wonderful items to be collected on a scavenger hunt (something a mouse would eat?) and two challenge bases on the way round. Our Scout troop really put parents through their paces with a survival challenge and a trust challenge – parents had to be led blindfolded round a rope course by their youngest child; John Cleese would have been proud of those steps the adults were making. And it was amazing how competitive some people were about the welly wanging challenge offered by our Beaver Leaders at Radwell Meadows. Back at head quarters, a dingbats challenge and quiz, just in case the grey matter had not been adequately exercised, followed by a barbeque and a very well deserved cup of tea!

Our congratulations to the Bandy family who won this challenge and received the Karen Onslow Cup, and our thanks to everyone who contributed to make this day such a success.

Cubs and Beaver from one family having fun



**Kim Onslow
presenting the
winners cup, in
memory of his
mother Karen to
Luke Bandy a
member of the
winning family.**

**Also pictured are
Fiona Potts, CSL and
Susannah Goward,
BSL.**



**Mum puts her trust in
her Beaver son**



**Wymondley Wood
Charges with effect
from 1 January
2014**



CENTRE

OVERNIGHT

DAY RATES

**(Kitchen
activity room
and committee
room)**

District Meetings

WITHIN DISTRICT		OUTSIDE DISTRICT		NON SCOUT/GUIDE	
EACH	MINIMUM	EACH	MINIMUM	EACH	MINIMUM
£6.00	£150.00	£8.00	£200.00	£10.50	£262.50
Charges to be agreed with the booking secretary in advance				£35.00 or £10.00 per hour as appropriate	
Free		£15.00		£25.00	

NOTE:

"District" includes Letchworth and Baldock Scout District
Letchworth Garden City Guide District and
Baldock Guide District

"Minimum" - Less than 25 people in the house overnight

Booking Secretary: Maureen Kell email: wymondleywood.org@hotmail.com

GR8 Big B@sh - Chief Scout visit to Phasels

The following Groups went to Phasels Wood to take part in the GR8 Big B@sh on Sunday 13 October. 1st Baldock Cubs, 4th Letchworth Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, 8th Letchworth Cubs and Scouts. Over 110 young people and Leaders attended from the District.

County Peak Assault

Two adult teams and three Explorer Scout teams took part in this year's County Peak Assault Competition in the Black Mountains.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

**8th Letchworth Scouts
Sparhawke
(in the grounds of Grange School)
Sunday 1st December 2013
12 – 3 pm**



- Christmas Raffle
- Cake Stall
- Tombola
- Tea/Coffee & Mince Pies
- Christmas crafts & gifts
- Fun & Games for all the family

If you would like to have a stall at our fair please email susan.platten@ntlworld.com to book as we have limited spaces. Cost £5.00 per stall plus a donation for the raffle.



This year 8th Letchworth had two teams in the County Born 2B Competition at Harmergreen Wood. Jay, Mae, Lauren and Adam in the Born 2B category and Molly, Rebecca, Ryan and Josh in the SAS category. Both teams did really well and came home with fantastic results – 1st place in the SAS and 2nd place in the Born 2B

SAS – Skills and Success – Patrols of Scouts who want to learn Scouting skills.

5th Letchworth also had a team of Scouts in the Born 2B.

**Afternoon Tea
Party
A celebration
of
achievements**

**Liz Taplin
ADC Beavers**



**Robin Bentley 1st
Ashwell Chairman**



**Paul Ross
Gang Show**



**Simon Goodwin
ADC Scouts**



**Peter Elmer
SASU Member**



**Bob Williams
District President**



**Sue King
ex DC's support**



**Janet Conder - ex
District Secretary
thank you
presentation**



The venue for the Arts and Crafts Competition and Exhibition will be 12-14 The Arcade, Letchworth Garden City. Exhibits can be dropped off by Leaders at the shop on Friday 8 November between 6pm - 8pm.

The competition will be judged early Saturday morning and then the shop will be open to the public from 10 am onwards.

The prize giving ceremony will be held at 3 pm on Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday 10 November the shop will be

open again from 11.30 am for a couple of hours and we hope that families will pop in after the Remembrance Service.

We would like to leave a window display for the following week to show our work and to raise awareness of Scouting in the area.

Any questions or problems please contact Clair Calver ACSL 7th Letchworth.

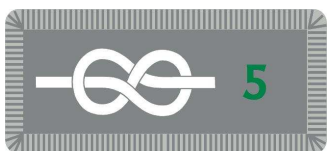
For more information please visit the District website www.lbdscouts.org.uk

Achievements

Chief Scout's Silver Award



Luke Bungay	1st Baldock (Knights)
Jamie Homewood	1st Baldock (Knights)
Malachi O'Hare	1st Baldock (Knights)
Tom Robins	1st Baldock (Knights)



Robin Bentley	1st Ashwell Chairman
Paul Ross	Gang Show
Liz Taplin	ADC (Beavers)



Simon Goodwin	ADC (Scouts)
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Peter Ellmer	Scout Active Support Member
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Bob Williams	District President
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**Congratulations to Helen Doherty ASL
5th Letchworth Scout Group on
gaining her Wood Badge**



Diary 2013 / 14

NOVEMBER

- 9 District Arts & Craft Exhibition
- 10 Remembrance Sunday
- 12 Jamboree Meeting
- 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



Bear Grylls, Chief Scout at the GR8 BIG B@SH

DECEMBER

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

JANUARY 2014

- 9 District Scout & Guide Shop reopens
- 9 District Executive Meeting
- 13 District Cub Leaders' Meeting

FEBRUARY

- 2 District Cooking Competition - Scouts
- 23 County Cooking Competition - Scouts

From our reporter, Chris Lewis, in Cyprus.

'After finishing his time as our DC Chris King has taken up a new career moonlighting as Elvis. We look forward to a performance!'

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