

Issue 614 May 2014 Co-Ordinator



St George's Day Parade and Service

Chris King received the Silver Acorn in this year's St George's Day



Honours

Congratulations to Chris King, DESC on being awarded the Silver Acorn in recognition of "specially distinguished service".

Chris together with his son Chris attended the Scout Association Parade at Windsor Castle where they watched a parade of Queen Scouts being presented to HRH Duke of Kent.

Around 550 members from all nine Scout Groups together with Explorer Scouts, Scout Network and the Scout Active Support Unit congregated at the Howard Park and Gardens in Letchworth.

The parade, held each year to mark the Scout Association's Patron saint, marched through Letchworth from Howard Park to the venue for this year's service, the Letchworth Garden City Church, on Icknield Way.

The service was led by Father Paul Bennett, Rector of the Parish of Letchworth. Many of us remember him when he presided over the Centenary outdoor St George's Day Service. The music to the hymns was provided by The Salvation Army band.

Thank you to 4th Letchworth Scout Group who organised the event on behalf of the District with the theme of "St George around the world". Special mention to Vicki Gage and her team for ensuring the smooth running of the afternoon and the police for their presence.

The parade dismissed at Norton Common, with an address from Hertfordshire County Scouts' representative, Tony Hankin, and presentation of two Awards of Merit to long-serving Leaders Vicki Gage, from 4th Letchworth, and Ian Hunt, from 12th Letchworth Scout Group.



Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts

County Cub Bushcraft Day Harmer Green

On Saturday the 22nd of March Alex, Oscar and I helped at the County Cub Bushcraft day. First of all we got up bright and early, had a lovely breakfast cooked by the lovely Wendy, then we geared up in hi-vis and walkie talkies and took to the car park. After causing lots of havoc in the car park we finally had all the Cubs on site. Next we gave the Leaders and teams the briefing. When all that was over we started the bases. These were first aid, pioneering, shelter building, tree ID, and fire lighting. The Cubs did some bases then had lunch. Then they went on to do more bases. At the end of the bases the Cubs had their presentations. After that we went back to the car park and got everyone offsite safely. From the response I got from the Cubs when asking if they had a good day I would say the day went very well and everyone enjoyed themselves. In my opinion the first County Bushcraft day went very well and I was proud to be a part of it, and would be happy to help next year.

Jay Lamb
Oak Eagle Explorer
Young leader



I had a brilliant time doing Bushcraft at Harmer Green Wood. I did lots of fun stuff, making knots and a catapult. We met other packs while we were hunting for different trees and their leaves. I love campfires and we made chicken and carrots on ours, best of all were the marshmallows on sticks! The best bit for me was when we made our tent using string, rocks and a sheet. I enjoyed being creative but I was worn out at the end of the day.

Samuel Bates
1st Baldock (Templars) Cub





Come and help support the District in its fundraising event

Date Saturday 7 June 2014
 Time 10:30 - 16:00 hrs
 Venue: At the fountain between WH Smith and
 Surfin Cafe in Letchworth.



In August 2014 a group of 40 Scouters from Suffolk and Hertfordshire will be travelling to South Africa for a 19 day expedition. The expedition will be based in Johannesburg and Mafeking with an option to visit Swaziland. The expedition activities will include community work, a visit to a game reserve and meeting and carrying out Scouting activities with local Scouts in Johannesburg and Mafeking.

Between 28 July and 8 August 2015, 3,500 Scouts and Guides from across the UK will be joining others from around the world in Kirara-hama, Japan for the 23rd World Scout Jamboree.

The theme of the Jamboree will be 'Wa' meaning harmony, unity, friendship and peace allowing a 'spirit of unity' to share others' cultures and faiths, take part in adventurous activities and grow as global citizens to tackle world issues.

To help three young people, Ben Milligan, Helen Inman and Bradley Moore take part in the "25 degrees south" County expedition to Africa in August 2014 and four young people representing the District , Christian Allan, Daniel Barnicott, Helen Inman and Rebecca Maynard, at the Scout World Jamboree in Japan in 2015.

Stalls - First come first served

Stalls - fundraising for a group or specifically for a named young person's travel

Sponsored event - 50/50 split between the District International Fund and a named young person's travel

nb - we can only have one tombola, one cake stall, one children's colouring, one bric a brac etc etc

The earlier you apply the better chance you have of getting your first choice

If your Group would like to have a stall please email the District Secretary, Apryl Goodwin

sec@lbdscouts.org.uk

Sponsored Event

Volunteers for male leg waxing. If you are interested please confirm your intention with Apryl and she will send you a sponsorship form. Last time they ran the event over £7000 was collected in sponsorship.

We also have a number of adults / Leaders from the District attending both of the above expeditions.



The Intermediate Mountaineering Course Lochearnhead

On Saturday the 5th of April, a mixture of Hertfordshire Scouts of all sizes and ages set off on an intrepid coach journey up to Scotland. They suffered many hardships such as not being able to sleep. The following morning we arrived at the legendary station of Lochearnhead. It's colours flying in the wind and the smell of breakfast cooking in the kitchen. Although we were half asleep, we could not wait for the day ahead. We found our cabins, made new friends and had breakfast. Afterwards we packed our bags ready to set off in the station transport. Minibuses of course! When we all arrived back in the afternoon we found out that there were no injuries unlike last year. We were all soaked through but there was a handy drying room available. Each of the following days we learnt new skills. Climbed higher and faster, through snow and bogs we powered on. All building up to the expedition: two nights and three days away from civilisation in the Scottish highlands. All groups had varied weather yet it couldn't stop us having all the fun in the world. But as much as we wanted to stay on the heather, we had to come down. But it wasn't over yet. The last night was in the style of a Scottish feast with haggis and many toasts, followed by a merry time of games put together by all the groups. Comic stories were told about

what happened in the time at the station and on the hills. On the leaving day the entire station went to work at cleaning and preparing for the next coach load of Scouts heading our way. It was under the clock but fortunately we finished with enough time for a sausage and bacon roll. The coach arrived, unloaded and then loaded us on.



The journey home was much more enjoyable than the one up. The IMC was an amazing experience and I can't wait to get back to Loch Earn.

**By Simon Kitching
Oak Eagle ESU**



**1st Baldock Beaver
Flying High Sleepover
21 - 22 March**

Both colonies joined together for our sleepover where we undertook the air activities badge without even leaving Wymondley Wood; imagination is a wonderful thing! After checking in at passport control and having their bodies and baggage scanned by Woodpecker and Jackdaw, the Beavers boarded the Beaver-air plane and under the careful control of Captain Vulture flew to Denmark. It was meatballs for tea (and Danish bacon for breakfast.) A few rousing songs round the campfire, and they were definitely NOT

in the mood for going to sleep.....Next morning, we got creative making kites and parachutes, learned about all sorts of different aircraft and launched just one or two rockets (Captain Vulture's skills again). A quick stroll around Wymondley Wood and before we knew it, it was time to go home. A fun adventure for all the Beavers, many thanks to all the adults who supported this. This is what one Beaver had to say about it all:



All aboard Beaver Air

Alexander launches his rocket



Hi my name is Alexander and this is what I did in my Beaver sleepover.

First I drove to Wymondley Wood and when I got there I chose my bunk (I got the top one!) and unpacked my bag. We went on a plane to Denmark (we had our tea on board). We had a bedtime story which was Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes. We stayed up until 11 PM! My favourite part of camp was waking up with all my friends, and all the yummy food!

The 8th Letchworth Beavers treated their mums in style this Mother's Day.

They held a special 'tea party' for them. The week before they had all made invitations inviting them to come to the hut at 6.45 pm.

Cucumber sandwiches were lovingly buttered and cut into triangles, fairy cakes were iced with pink icing and then all presented on special plates decorated with hearts.

The tables were laid and then it was time to invite them in, along with a warning to check the thickness of the butter before they ate the sandwiches !

Each mum had their chair pulled out for them and offered their choice of orange or blackcurrant, while Michael Bubl  serenaded them in the background.

Everyone had a lovely time, even a great aunt from Australia who is visiting one of the Beavers.



Great Fun at Great Barford - Oak Eagle Explorer Scouts

On the evening of Friday 25 April a happy team of Explorers and leaders took the train from Arlesey to Sandy. The fast walking, smart talking team set off to Gt Barford along the river banks and footpaths of Bedfordshire. The steady, smart thinking team followed along, avoiding the deep muddy ditch that has been the downfall of others.

Arriving at camp tents were pitched, dinner was made and the fire was lit. Of course it was a big fire! It is the only sort Alex knows.



In the morning the fire was re stoked, Jay got the bacon on, the tents were drying in the sunshine and leaders were drinking tea.

CK1 arrived with his arrows and Jackie and Goodie got the climbing wall ready for a morning of fun. Archery was exciting and skilful with the added amusement of some very dodgy shots. Climbing was rock steady with everyone reaching dizzy heights and dangling from the over hang.

At the end of the morning we packed up and made our separate ways home. Most by car but two of our super keen Explorers walked all the way back to Letchworth. Well done Alex and Oscar!

Thanks to all those who came along and made the event such fun.

Achievements

Chief Scout's Silver Award



Ruby Mitchell 11th Letchworth
Harry Simpson 1st Baldock (Templars)



Congratulations to Nick, ASL 5th Letchworth and Kayleigh Howell on the birth of their second child Benjamin Nicholas. I am sure we will

soon be seeing Benjamin and his brother Felix at various 5th Letchworth Scout Group events.

Ian Taplin doing what he does best - burning rubbish at Wymondley Wood



Badge Price Increase

Scout Shop Limited have increased the retail price of badges as from 1 May 2014. As a result the price of badges at the District Shop will also increase.

Eileen Philips



It was with sadness that we heard that Eileen Philips had 'gone home', after spending five weeks in Lister Hospital after a fall at home. Eileen and her husband Colin were stalwart supporters of Scouting and Guiding. Eileen was a Guide Leader and District Commissioner for many years. She joined the Fellowship and later the ASU after the death of her husband Colin. She supported the ASU and was a member of the Trefoil Guild.



1st Baldock Beavers at Wymondley Wood

Diary 2014

MAY

2 - 5	P.A.C.E.	Tolmers Activity Centre
2 - 5	I.T.T.H (Introduction to the Hills)	Orchard Farm
8	District AGM	District HQ
9	7th Letchworth AGM	Wilbury Hall
10	District Beaver Challenge	1st Baldock HQ, Park Drive
10	Active Support Unit Canal Trip	River Lee
10	District First Aid Course	
10	5th Letchworth AGM	5th Letchworth HQ, Spring Road
14	1st Baldock AGM	7.40 pm 1st Baldock HQ
16	4th Letchworth AGM	St Paul's Church
17	County Active Support Unit event	Tolmers
17	Gang Show AGM	
18	Letchworth Garden City Rotary Walk	
18	District Scout Archery & Shooting Competition	Wymondley Wood
19	Wymondley Wood Meeting	Wymondley Wood
26 - 30	Half Term - Scout & Guide Shop closed	

JUNE

3	Scout and Guide Shop re-opens	
6 - 8	District Scout Kon Tiki Competition	
7	Active Support Unit General Meeting Annual plus games afternoon, quiz and Fish and Chips dinner - Guide HQ	
7	District Fundraising event outside WH Smith	
12	District Beavers Bangers and Bash	Wymondley Wood

Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts
Editor Rita Hawkins, 1 South Close,
Baldock SG7 6DS

editor.co-ordinator@virginmedia.com

Printed by: Print Factory, Whitehorse
Street, Baldock, Printfactory@tesco.net



Near Lochearnhead