

Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council

No: 620

December 2014

Co-ordinator

Merry Christmas

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For the second year running the winner of the District Christmas Card Competition comes from 12th Letchworth Scout Group.
Congratulations to Abigail Cobb, Scout, whose design was chosen to be printed as the District Christmas Card.

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Remembrance Sunday 9 November

The Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts took part in the Remembrance Services at the Letchworth War Memorial, Ashwell War Memorial and Baldock Town War Memorial. 4th Letchworth Scout Group attended the Remembrance Service at St Paul's Church in Letchworth.

"Think of me as you pass by
Reflect on why I had to die
So many young lives
Such Senseless wars
We surrendered our future
So you could have yours."









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2nd Baldock Cubs went to Hendon this term to do our air activity badges.

This trip helped us understand how planes work by using a model.

We also went in a 4D simulator which moved our seats and sprayed artificial smoke at us, simulating that we were in a plane that was flying fine to begin with but then got shot in one of the propellers.

We also saw a Vulcan, Lancaster, Spitfire, Hurricane and a helicopter while we were there - it was great fun!

Callan Ince

2nd Baldock Cubs



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8th Letchworth
Beavers making a
money chain across
the hall floor.
Total money raised
was £35.61 for
Children in Need





GREEN BERET CHALLENGE

The Green Beret Challenge is a weekend competition for teams of six Scouts. To achieve the Green Beret Challenge, teams compete in four elements: Orienteering, an Assault course, Challenge Incidents (Daytime) and a Night Exercise.

8th Letchworth Scout Green Beret Team — Two Directions smashed the groups previous results in the County Competition. A record 157 teams took part, 131 completed, and their team of six Scouts came an impressive 27th overall. The Scouts camped all weekend in challenging conditions – rain, mud, fog and ice. On Saturday they competed on day bases and night bases as well as the compulsory assault course and orienteering elements.

This year the Green Beret Competition was at Phasel's Wood.

We had to do several activities that challenged us mentally and physically. We started the morning with orienteering. We had to use a map to find 15 bases in 45 minutes. We only found 5, but that was still more than most. Then it was the day bases, where we could choose from 160 activities ranging from climbing over a van to naming all the ordnance survey symbols. My favourite base was where we made a giant marble run out of guttering and bamboo stalks



We then did a really tough assault course; crawling through tunnels, leaping over high branches and climbing upside down along a rope. It was really muddy. After that, we continued with the day activities until 5:00 pm. Just before we started our night activities, we had some delicious food and a slice of cake covered in custard.

The night activities included pulling a truck and naming country flags. Annoyingly, many of the bases had massive queues. When we came back, we were all exhausted.

In the morning we took down our tents and prepared for the awards ceremony. We came 36^{th} , not bad considering we didn't finish the night activity.

I would definitely recommend Green Beret. But remember it is not a camp for the faint hearted.

Overall Results	
<i>G</i> roup	Position
12th Letchworth (Elite)	20th
8th Letchworth	27th
5th Letchworth	36th
7th Letchworth	53rd
12th Letchworth (Ace)	98th
4th Letchworth	113th
11th Letchworth	124th

Notable achievements.

8th Letchworth came 9th in the assault course

12th Letchworth (Elite) came 17th in the Night Activity Bases and 19th in the Orienteering.

Well done to all the Scouts who took part and to the Leaders who also went to support then.



My First Peak Assault.

On the 17 - 19 October I attended Peak Assault. This is a Hertfordshire run event where people of 14 and upwards are picked up in a local location and are then driven across the country to be dropped in a random location for a weekend of hiking and rain.

We got picked up in Stevenage on Friday night and I had spent so long worrying about whether I had the right kit that I forgot one of the most important pieces of kit, my Explorer shirt! Luckily the bus was running an hour late and so my mum was able to drive back and pick it up. Phew!

At midnight we got dropped at the secret location We were in the Lake District, without paying too much attention to our surroundings we set up our tents in horizontal rain.

The next day, we woke up and it was raining again. I won't mention rain again, but it goes without saying that it rained for the whole weekend.

On Saturday we got up at about 6 in the morning to leave the site at 7 30. My team consisted of me, Jay Lamb, Brendan Hunt and Adam Gore supported by walking leader Fiona Potts. We packed up our tents, had a bowl of porridge and we were away. We spent the day walking across hills trying to find as many checkpoints as possible in 7 hours. We walked over hills and we walked through more streams than we did paths, this had it's drawbacks though, you would put your foot down expecting to stand in a puddle and you would end up with your boot swamped by six inches of water. We found a few points but got a little confused and ended up being about an hour late. We set up camp at a farm on a hillside in eighty mph winds and then retired to our tents to plan tomorrow's route.

On Sunday morning we made breakfast in one of the barns and then we set off for another day on the hills. We did much better and after securing 13 points we headed back to base camp for a well deserved cup of soup and to put our feet up.

It was a good event with ups and downs, but mostly ups and I look forward to taking part again next year.

Christian Allen

Oak Eagle Explorer Scout .



CHARGES HELD UNTIL 2016

The Wymondley Wood Committee have agreed to hold the charges at their current level for the hire of Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre and also the camping fees until 2016.



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Achievements

Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Abigail Bell 8th Letchworth
Alfie Blows 8th Letchworth
Ben Gosnell 8th Letchworth
Millie Hamilton 8th Letchworth
Kai Hartshore 11th Letchworth
Mikey Lawrence 8th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Silver Award

Charlie Oates 11th Letchworth









Tip Bits

Clair Calver, AESL, Oak Eagle has taken on the role as the DHQ Quartermaster with Apryl Goodwin assisting.

Jackie Hare, SL 7t Letchworth has taken on the role as District Minibus Coordinator

Fiona Potts, CSL 1st Baldock (Knights) will be assisting Chris King, DESC with the Young Leaders.

The District Poppy event held on 25 October at Broadway Gardens raised £400.00 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. 8th Letchworth raised £164 from donations for the 100+ poppies which were knitted by a grandparent of one of the 8th Letchworth Beaver Scouts — A fantastic amount which will be passed onto the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

2015 is the Year of Adventure and the Scout Association wants Cub Packs across the UK to take part in two adventure challenges a month. Check out the Scout Association website for more information and also read about the 2016 Cub Scout Centenary.

Letchworth & **Baldock District** Scout Council

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District Festive Post

The stamps will be available from various outlets in Letchworth and Baldock

Letchworth Tourist Information Centre David's Bookshop

Baldock Community Centre

K&L Trophies—The Grange

Clothall Common Shop -Baldock

> Printed by: Print Factory, 32 Whitehorse Street Baldock SG7 600 Printfactory@tesco.net 01462 896289

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2014 Diary Dates 2015

December

6 SASU Book Club 7 County Winter Wonderland - Phasels Wood 8 Letchworth Guides Christmas Carol Service District Executive Meeting - Finance 11 13 SASU Christmas Buffet

Scout & Guide Shop closes for Christmas January 2015

8 Scout & Guide Shop Reopens

13 County Network Quiz

26 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting

February

16

1 District Scout Cooking Competition 23 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting

March

27 - 28 District Gang Show

30 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting



Crosses made and laid by 8th Letchworth Beavers at the War Memorial in Letchworth



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