



Co-ordinator

NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Inside this issue:

As we start a new year in Letchworth & Baldock District Scouting, we ought to reflect on the last twelve months. What a year it has been. It was my first full calendar year as District Commissioner and it gave me an opportunity to see for myself all that goes on in our groups and units. I can honestly say I was overwhelmed by the range of activities and the breadth of discoveries we offer all our young people. As the old Ralph Reader Gang Show song goes, "We've Been Making Memories". And indeed we have.

Here's to another great year in 2015. Thank you to all adults in Scouting who make it possible and to all our young people who join in with such enthusiasm. After all, that's why we do it.

A Very Happy New Year to You and Your Families and a huge great big THANK YOU!

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The District Christmas Scout Post

We delivered 1404 cards to all parts of SG6 and SG7. The total raised after printing and other costs was £340.00. All towards the new District International Fund. Thank you to all the young people, Leaders and parents who got so involved with this. Our thanks also go to our selling and collection points. **Letchworth.** David's Bookshop, Bennett Court, St Paul's Church, St Michael's Church, The Tourist Information Centre and Satchells Estate Agents. **Baldock.** Community Centre, Clothall Common Stores and Satchells Estate Agents and to groups who sold stamps to their parents and friends.



District Cub Scout Quiz

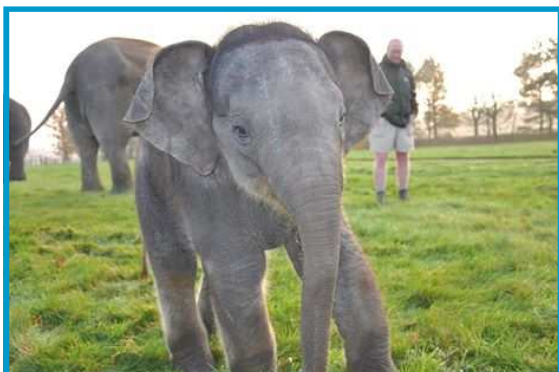


Nine Packs from the District took part in the annual District Cub Quiz on Friday 28th November. As in previous years the

winners of last year's competition, 1st Ashwell, prepared the questions. All the Cubs enjoyed themselves, especially the music round where they had to listen to short clips.

The top three

1st Place	1st Ashwell	50 points
2nd Place	joint 2nd Baldock and 1st Baldock (Templars)	47 points
3rd Place	1st Baldock (Knights)	46 points



Hayley Palmer, CSL 11th Letchworth named baby elephant at Woburn Safari Park

Woburn Safari Park are delighted to announce the happy news - Woburn's adorable elephant calf now has a name - Tarli, meaning Star.

Congratulations to our winner Hayley Palmer, who suggested the name Tarli for the calf. Her name was picked for the shortlist (one of six names) by the elephant keepers and then voted as the most popular choice in a poll on the Woburn Safari Park website.

Hayley wins a fantastic prize which includes a stay at the Woburn Hotel and a VIP Experience for four people to meet the elephant herd, Tarli the calf and the elephant keeper team.

Congratulations Hayley, we're sure you are going to love meeting Tarli, when you go to the park for your VIP trip.

This year 2nd Baldock group decided to support Operation Christmas Child which is more commonly known as the Shoebox Appeal. Each family received a pre-made shoebox to fill and fill them they did! In went toys and wrapped sweets; pens, pencils, colouring books and note paper; soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes; cuddly toys and many other items. Everyone was extremely generous and, in all, the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts filled over 30 boxes. We are looking forward to finding out where they were delivered and hopefully each one will put a smile on a child's face and make Christmas special for them this year.



The A.S.U held their Christmas Buffet on the 13th December at the Guide H.Q. Thirty one members enjoyed a buffet and a small sing song to remember WW1 followed by some



Christmas songs and an energetic version of the 12

Days of Christmas just to prove we had not eaten too much.

The Secret Santa this year was for the Talking Books for the Blind group in Letchworth who needed money for the annual subscription for the equipment to borrow the discs with the books each month. This year we raised £145 and the committee rounded it up to £150, a big thank you to all the ASU. Members.



8th Letchworth Beaver Scouts Sleepover at Wymondley Wood

Last weekend, the 8th Letchworth Beavers had a sleepover at Wymondley Wood.

Once they had all arrived they went to their rooms and unpacked. They were then put into teams and did some Christmas themed activities.

Then it was time to go for a hike in the woods, in the dark ! It was very muddy.

They ended up at a huge campfire that Baloo and Adam had built. Then they had massive marshmallows from Costco - yum yum !

Back in the house, it was hot chocolate and cake before a bedtime story.

Believe it or not, they were all asleep by 10.30pm and none of them woke up before 7am the next morning !

Fantastic, especially as for eight of them, it was their 1st night away !

The morning's activities included making edible snowmen and playing bingo - oh, and of course, more cake !

Here is what some of the Beaver Scouts had to say:-

I really liked Beavers sleepover because I got to sleep with my friends and we all had fun in our room. I slept on the top bunk.

I loved the camp fire, we had marshmallows and we sung songs, my favourite was Alice the camel.

I liked everything about Beavers camp.

By Noah

I really enjoyed the sleepover at the woods. I loved sitting round the campfire singing songs in the dark.

We played lots of fun games. My favourite was bingo. I also liked going on the dark walk. I was not scared because I was with lots of other Beavers. I am looking forward to going on the next sleep over.

Thank you.

By George

Thank you for our awesome sleepover. We had a good time hiking round the woods in the dark. It was very chilly even round the camp fire, but the hot chocolate back at the hut soon warmed me up. It was the best part of my day. We made a snowman out of biscuits, chocolate and marshmallows it was delicious. I can't wait for the next sleepover because I had so much fun.



By Ben

I had so much fun, the best part was the camp fire, eating my massive marshmallow! I liked singing and dancing to the songs.

My favourite part was having the hot chocolate!

By Ella

Christmas Show

On Thursday 18 December, all Letchworth & Baldock District Beavers were invited to see a special **Christmas Show** at District Headquarters. Imajica Theatre Company performed, free of charge, their own show, "Santa's Elves Save Christmas". All the Beavers had a wonderful time and around £30 was raised in voluntary donations towards the District International Fund. Afterwards, Samantha Hough, Artistic Director with Imajica, said "All the Beavers were so enthusiastic, we loved performing our show to such a well behaved and polite group"

Thanks go to Imajica and to the Leaders who attended on the evening to allow the show to go ahead.

8th Letchworth Scout Group would like to say thank you to everyone who came and supported them and to everyone who helped organise the Christmas Fair or helped on the day. Mike Myner, Group Treasurer, has counted up and the Group have raised an impressive £956.82





Scout Gang Show

28 and 29 March 2015 - St Francis College Theatre

The Letchworth and Baldock District Gang Show was started back in 1955 and since that time there have only been 10 years when the

show was not performed. Over the years there have only been thirteen producers.

Dave Beach 1955, 1956

Ernie Caldwell 1957, 1958, 1962

Fred Cogar 1959, 1960, 1969, 1983 - 1985, 1987

John Baker 1961, 1963

Ian Woodhead 1964

Jim Bruce 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968

Harry Frankland 1967, 1968, 1970 - 1975

Steve Lusty 1988, 1990 - 1991

Andrea Soulsby 1992, 1993, 1997 - 2003

Dave Strong 2004 - 2011

Tracey Duxbury 2009

Michaela Stevens 2012, 2013

Phil Ross 2012 - 2014

The 2015 show is well under way and as it is their 50th show they want to make it really special.



Photos from the 1975 show - 40 years ago



Letchworth and Baldock Gang Show will perform their fast moving variety show three times over the weekend of 28 and 29 March 2015 at St Francis College Theatre, Broadway, Letchworth. Tickets are all priced at £7.00 each and are only available online at gangshow.ticketsource.co.uk



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



Achievements



Chief Scout's Platinum Award

Helen Inman	Oak Eagle ESU
Ben Milligan	Oak Eagle ESU
Bradley Moore	Oak Eagle ESU

Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Leo Coulter	12th Letchworth
Lewis Cromack	4th Letchworth
Henry Cuthbert	4th Letchworth
Benjamin Dalton	4th Letchworth
Joseph Lee	12th Letchworth
Rose Love	4th Letchworth
Cade McGrinder	4th Letchworth
Samuel Money	4th Letchworth
Aleksander Mucha	4th Letchworth
Luke Valentine	12th Letchworth

Chief Scout's Gold Award

Jack Mallard	4th Letchworth
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Membership Subscription 2015

It was unanimously agreed at the last District Executive Finance Meeting to keep the District portion of the Membership Subscription the same as last year. Both National and County subscriptions are also to stay the same as last year.

2015 Subscription breakdown is:-

National	£21.00
County	£11.10
District	£ 4.20
Total	<u>£36.30</u> per member

Phil Charsley, District Treasurer, will be contacting all Group Treasurers in the New Year with details of deadlines and payments.

**Letchworth &
Baldock District
Scout Council**

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2015 Diary Dates 2015

January 2015

- 5 ASU Book Club 2.00 pm
- 8 Scout & Guide Shop Reopens
- 13 County Scout Network Quiz
- 16 - 18 Tolmers Fire and Ice Weekend
- 22 Module A - Prepare for take off (Young Leaders) DHQ 1900:2100 hrs
- 26 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting

February

- 1 District Scout Cooking Competition
- 2 ASU Book Club 2.00 pm
- 7 ASU - Heritage Museum talk - War years
- 15 County Scout Cooking Competition
- 23 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting
- 28 - 1 Chiltern Challenge - Phasels Wood

March

- 2 ASU Book Club 2.00 pm
- 16 County Scout Triathlon - Lees Wood
- 22 County Cub Bushcraft Activity
- 27 Queens Scout Award Dinner - Gilwell Park
- 27 - 28 District Gang Show
- 30 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting

April

- TBA St George's Day Parade and Service

May

- 8 - 10 District Cubs Sixers and Seconders Weekend
- 17 Letchworth Rotary Greenway walk

