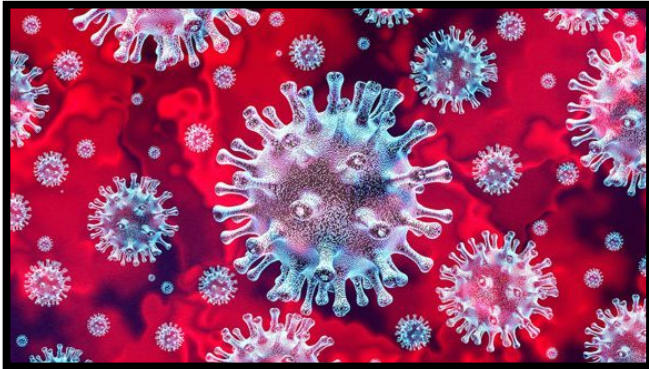


April 2020

No: 679

**Message from the District Commissioner -
Wendy Tierney**



I hope you are all well and keeping yourselves and your families safe.

It is an unprecedented situation that Scouting has had to stop face to face meetings, but Scouting doesn't have to stop, there are other means to keep Scouting going. I have already heard how

some groups are setting challenges for their young people. If you have some good ideas let's share them. Look to see what badges they can work on at home. If they have started on any badges can these be finished at home? If you have any pictures of what the young people are doing send these to Rita to put in Co-Ordinator (make sure you get parents permission to do this first). HQ have put on their website 100 activities for indoors. Take a look, it may give you some ideas. Let's try and keep the enthusiasm for Scouting in the young people going as we need them to come back when we all get back to normal!!

Let's not let the young people have all the fun. Leaders can take this time to look at their own training. Some of this can be done online. For those who are still provisional you can get your mandatory modules done except First Aid, you can even do other modules too. If you have finished your training, look at the modules again as things may have been updated since you did yours, this will be classed as ongoing learning. Let Gill, Chris or your training adviser know what modules you have done. Look at your record on Compass as I have noticed that email addresses haven't been changed to your Group ones, check to make sure your details are correct. There is lots of tidying up on records procedures that can be done too. Check the young people's details. Are their records up to date? Please take this time to look at what can be done in Scouting now for when we start back, such as programme planning, camps and outings etc.

Please keep me updated with what sort of things you are doing with your sections.

Take care and stay safe.

Wendy Tierney DC

An Explorer Scout being invested at the Oak Eagle ESU first virtual meeting.



Badges

During the current situation the Scout Shop will remain shut until further notice. However, badges can still be ordered via email to

dhawkins@lbdscouts.org.uk

I will be able to provide badges I have available from the District Scout Shop. Placing orders with Scout Shop Limited is proving difficult as they are working from home and order processing is extremely slow.

Stay Safe

Dave Hawkins

County Scout Cooking Competition

1st Ashwell Scout represented the District at the County Scout Cooking Competition in March.

Nine Districts entered a team of four Scouts into the competition. There were eleven categories earning a total of 260 points. The winners 4th Radlett won with 250 points 1st Ashwell had 221 points and came joint eighth with 1st Abbots Langley/3rd North Watford

Well Done.



Oak Eagle Explorer Scout Unit Virtual Meeting

EXPLORERS On Monday 23rd March 2020, Oak Eagle ESU held their very first virtual Explorer Scout meeting. We used Zoom on laptops, ipad and smart phones. More than 30 Explorers and Leaders joined the meeting. David Rafferty chaired the meeting and he had a back drop of DHQ where we meet.

We started with flag break, which was a film of our flag unfurling and then we had a chat about how to use the system. We launched a competition to design a logo for our new line of hoodies, polo shirts and T shirts.

Next we all made an origami Explorers shirt that can be coloured in. David gave the instructions and we watched while he made his one too. We spoke about putting a rainbow in our windows. This is something that lots of people are doing to raise all our spirits and when out for a walk you can look out for them.

We also chatted about staying safe during this difficult time and finding help if others need assistance. There is an option for everyone to 'chat' and some gave ideas of things to do in the future meetings



Then it was time to invest one of our Explorers. We all made the sign while he said the promise. A great moment for him and history in the making.

The flag was lowered and we ended the meeting. Some were far more comfortable than others with this type of meeting but it is something we shall all get used to I'm sure.

Thanks to David for his expertise and for helping us oldies through it.

Clair Claver - ESL



Talk given at St George's Day Service at Letchworth Free Church on Sunday 25 April 2010



How are we building

Jack was a builder. It was hard work, and he worked long hours. As an apprentice, he didn't earn as much as he would have liked, - but he stuck with it and he became a good builder.

One day, his Uncle said, "Jack, I'd like you to build me a house. You must use the very best materials, - no expense spared! Just let me know what you spend and I'll settle the bills." It was good news! That means Jack would have a good job for several months, - but life was unfair! Here was his Uncle splashing out on a brand new house on a prime site for himself, -but when it came to birthdays and Christmas his Uncle was stingy and mean. So, - Jack hit on a plan for his own advantage!

He started the Foundations - but they were not as deep as they should have been. In those days there were no Building Regulations to check up on him - so the foundations were a bit shallow - but who would know? Because they were underground. But on the bill, Jack made it look as if he'd done it properly, and he creamed off the money he'd saved. And so it went on... The walls were built, but the bricks weren't the best quality his Uncle had asked for, but after all, they were rendered, so no-one could see. He did the same with the floors, windows, doors, roof, - everything which was part of this splendid new house for his Uncle. It all looked good on the outside - but Jack knew the house wasn't as well built as it seemed - and Jack made quite a lot of money on it too.

At last it was finished. Jack's Uncle paid the final bill. Jack arranged to meet his Uncle at the new house and give him the keys. Jack's Uncle seemed pleased with his splendid house. He complemented Jack on how good it all looked. At the end of the guided tour, his Uncle said "Jack, thank you for building me this house. I wanted it to be the best house you could build because I'm giving it to you as a wedding present. Here are the keys."



I wonder how Jack felt? Guilty? Sorry? Ashamed? He knew he'd cheated his Uncle out of a lot of money. He knew the house wasn't as good as it seemed. There's a lesson for us all. It's not what we appear to be on the outside which matters - but what we are on the inside, - and how we live and act and behave - and that depends on our foundations for living. **How are we building?** Are we trying to keep the Scout Promises to do our best, to serve God and to help other people? - and are we trying to keep the Scout Law showing courage, loyalty, respect, consideration, self-control so we slay the dragon of self and Selfish Greed?

As we celebrate St George's Day, let's thank God for the vision of Lord and Lady Baden Powell and the worldwide Organisation of the Scouting Movement. Let's be inspired to build on these firm foundations like the wise man who built his house on solid rock - the Rock of God and His word and deeds.

Jeanne Ennals (Revd)



**St George's Day
2007
Broadway Gardens**



1st Baldock (Knights) Cub Scouts

Scouts Against Malaria



On a cold, wet very dark night in February 1st Baldock Knights Cubs took on the challenge of a mud run.

We had been learning about Malaria and what can be done to limit its impact through games and activities. The last requirement to achieve the Scouts Against Malaria badge was to help to raise funds to reduce the incidence of malaria. The Pack decided that a sponsored event would be a good way to raise funds. They requested a challenge and came up with the 'mud run' at the obstacle arena Baldock. For some Cubs it was a challenge just to attend the event in the cold and dark and to support and encourage their friends. Other Cubs were excited about tackling obstacles by the light of their head torches and managed to cover several circuits. Some found it challenging to ask people to sponsor them for such an activity. All the Cubs had a great time and did their best, ending up very muddy and tired but excited by what they had achieved. All the adults were impressed by how well they did.

We raised over one thousand pounds which has gone to provide impregnated mosquito nets for distribution by African Scouts, who will be trained to educate the local population in the correct use of the nets.

More information resources and section specific requirements can be found at <http://www.scoutsagainstmalaria.org.uk/>

This can also now be found on OSM and as a Badges at Home.

Fiona - Akela





Peter Ellmers
GSL 8th Letchworth
Scout Group



It is with great sadness that I have to announce that Peter Ellmers GSL 8th Letchworth has gone home.

Peter died peacefully in his sleep on Monday night (23rd March). Peter's family gave me the privilege of visiting him at home so that I could present him with the Award for Merit, which I think he very much deserved for all that he did for this District and also to all the Young People and Leaders of 8th Letchworth. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Scouting has lost a much respected and caring man but he has left behind wonderful memories and skills that he has passed on to many.

Our thoughts and prayer's are with Peters family, his wife Anne and his sons Andrew, Simon and Ian at this sad time.

Rest in peace Peter.

Wendy Tierney DC

New County Secretary

Claire Stevens has joined the staff team as County Secretary. Claire has been in Scouting within Hertfordshire for over 20 years, leading Cubs and Beavers for 1st Apsley.

As County Secretary Claire will be responsible for Governance within Hertfordshire Scouts. This means she will oversee that things are being done properly, making sure that everything follows P.O.R. and is in line with the Charity Commission Compliance regulations, along with organising and minuting meetings for County Team.

Alongside Claire's role the County Support centre provides support for everyday questions and queries for adult members.

County Support Centre

Open 7 days a week

Core Hours 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

Monday to Friday (term time)

County Admin

0208 236 0040

info@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Marketing and Communications

comms@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Fundraising

appeal@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Training

training@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Achievements



Award for Merit

Peter Ellmers

GSL 8th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Freddie Harvey

12th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Silver Award

Thomas Saunders

12th Letchworth



Welcome to

Emma Hitchin-Reeves

ACSL 11th Letchworth

Lisa Tassell

ASL 11th Letchworth

TEAMWORK

Leave this world a little better than you found it.

Printed by: Print Factory,
32 Whitehorse Street
Baldock SG7 6QQ
01462 896289

Editor:
Rita Hawkins
1 South Close, Baldock
Hertfordshire
SG7 6DS
Tele: 01462 643432
e-mail
co-ordinator@lbdscouts.org.uk