



Letchworth, Baldock &  
Ashwell

May 2020

No: 680



## AGMs Remotely

Dear Scouting Colleagues,

During these difficult times, with face to face Scouting on hold, it was felt and agreed by the majority of the District Executive that we should complete our AGMs remotely such that when times improve we are totally focused on returning to traditional Scouting activities.

Below is a recommended process and timeline to follow in achieving a successful remote AGM. Please review and implement the best possible process for your group.

Thank you for your continued support in all Scouting activities.

**Ken Osborne - District Chairman**

### REMOTE AGM

**SET A DATE FOR YOUR AGM**, inform the District Secretary [sec@lbdscouts.org.uk](mailto:sec@lbdscouts.org.uk) She will inform the relevant Scouting teams.

**ONE WEEK BEFORE YOUR AGM DATE - SEND BY EMAIL A PDF VERSION OF YOUR AGM REPORTS**, with a deadline for any questions and objections to the election of officers. It's suggested you make this deadline the day before your published AGM date.

#### YOUR AGM REPORTS

Minutes from last year's AGM

Timeline – as above

Include deadline for questions and objections to election of officers etc

Introduction / report from the Chair

Treasurer's summary and finance report

Section reports and photos (optional)

Scouts

Cubs

Beavers

Group activities (optional)

Election of Executive committee

The names of key officers (ideally with a paragraph of 'who am I?') should be circulated too.

'Who am I' can be as simple as - I have a child in Beavers and believe I can help the Group by being your Treasurer. My day job is as an accountant. I love to watch football and taking the dog for a walk. It's a great way for parents to understand why we volunteer and can encourage others to step forward.

**YOUR AGM REPORT SHOULD BE SENT TO ALL YOUR PARENTS IN THE GROUP AND TO [sec@lbdscouts.org.uk](mailto:sec@lbdscouts.org.uk)** (the District Secretary can circulate to the relevant Scouting teams)

**THE DAY BEFORE YOUR AGM DATE** – Ensure you have responded to questions raised and ensure that these are recorded in the minutes.

**THE DAY OF YOUR AGM** - Your Minutes can be written up. Although not a rule in POR, it would be good practice in these unprecedented times to send a copy of the minutes to the District via the [sec@lbdscouts.org.uk](mailto:sec@lbdscouts.org.uk) email.

# 8th Letchworth Scouts Monopoly Run

On Saturday 7th March some of the 8th Letchworth Scout Group went to London for the Monopoly Run 2020. We had an early start and had to meet at the train station by 7am. The journey went quite quickly. When we got there we checked in at Waterloo Station. We were team 849 the Younglings. The aim of the game was to go around London and find all the landmarks that were pictured in the booklet and answer questions. It was great fun. I saw some things in London I have never seen before. I also went on the underground for the first time. It was quite dark and the train went really fast!. We stopped for lunch then carried on. My favourite parts of the afternoon were seeing Buckingham Palace and getting invested in Trafalgar Square. When we had finished we met the other teams from our Group at Waterloo station and finished a brilliant day with a McDonald's before we returned home. I loved doing the Monopoly Run, it was fast and exciting and I would definitely do it again.

**Natalie Silman**  
**8th Letchworth Scout**



## Badges during lock down

Do not forget that badges are still available from the badge secretary during the current lock down either from stock at the Scout Shop or I can order them for you. Please email your requirements to

[dhawkins@lbdscouts.org.uk](mailto:dhawkins@lbdscouts.org.uk)



## **1st Baldock (Knights) Cubs** **visit to the Sikh Temple**

Back in February, Knights Cubs went to the Sikh Temple to find out about Sikhism. We were given a talk about the 5 Ks which are:

Kesh, which is uncut hair and a beard for men

Kanga, a wooden comb for hair

Kara (an iron bracelet)

Kachera which is big underwear

Kirpan that is an iron dagger

They are articles of faith connected to the Sikh ways of life. They provide meals for the public no matter what religion they are. The Sikhs say that if you can't do good do no bad.

After that, we were told about how Sikhism came to be a religion. They were founded by Guru Nanak Dev in the year 1469.

He told us about the Guru Granth Sahib (the Sikhs' holy book) and about the readings in the book. All the readings came from the other 10 Gurus because the last one was dying. We were told they treat the book like a person so they have a bed for it. They get it up in the morning and put in to bed in the evening.

Winston Churchill said that they didn't have to wear motorcycle helmets or any crash helmets because of their turban. This is because in the world wars they didn't wear helmets in the war, so Churchill said why do they need to wear motorcycle helmets.

We had a great time meeting the Sikh people, who made us very welcome.

**Abbie, Jess and Willow**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Baldock (Knights) Cubs**



## **4th Letchworth Beavers**

Scouting is virtual at the moment with 4th Letchworth Beavers - via Zoom. We have done the Experiment Badge and Communication badge planned for next meeting, Facebook campfire with Grizzly and vlogged hedgehog craft with Kestrel. We are doing the camp at home with Northumberland Scouts on 30th and did the virtual camp fire with 7th Redcar Scout Group too.

**Vicki Gage - 4th Letchworth BSL and District ADC**  
**(Beavers)**





# 1st Baldock (Templars) Cubs

1st Baldock Templars Cubs have not let the current situation stop them from Scouting! We have a lot of Cubs taking part in the #Camp At Home challenge and we've given Cubs some badges to work on at home. Also, we were in the middle of doing our home help badge and needed to get the Cubs to do their "cook a one course meal."

Here are just a few of the Cubs that took on the challenge:

**Lewis says** - "my favourite part of cooking Bombay potatoes was the part where I added the spices to the pan because I liked the smell. I didn't enjoy the time I had to wait until I could eat them but they were yummy when I did"

**Josh said** 'I really enjoyed making the meal, it was satisfying when the cheese melted in the pan, it tasted good'

**Thomas says:** "I am enjoying working towards Cubs badges at home. For my home help badge I made a shepherd's pie. The hard part was peeling the potatoes and the easiest part was peeling the carrots. I really loved eating it. I have been sleeping in my small tent in my bedroom since 1st April as part of the 30 day challenge, it is really fun in there. I have chosen 2 badges to work on at home - Book Reader and Animal Carer. For Animal Carer I am cleaning and feeding my African Land Snail each night and am keeping a record of the wildlife that is visiting the garden. For Book Reader I have read 2 books already and am learning how to use a dictionary and thesaurus."

**Izzy** made hotdogs with relish and chips and said "It was pretty hard making it but I managed and it tasted delicious in the end. Doing some badge work at home is fun and exciting, just like doing it in the meetings is."

**James's** comments about cooking slow cooker chicken pasta: 'I really enjoyed making this as I learnt new skills e.g cooking pasta and felt proud by cooking for the family'.

Finally comments from Oliver and Hannah who both did their cooking in their Scout tops!

**Oliver said** "I loved every second of cooking. I'd never cooked lasagne before so I was really proud of how it turned out."

**Hannah's comments were:** "The brownies were really fun to make, although I did make a bit of a mess of the kitchen - but they tasted absolutely delicious."

We have kept in touch via our private Facebook page and it has been amazing to see the positive posts and photos and we are very proud of our Cubs for carrying on.

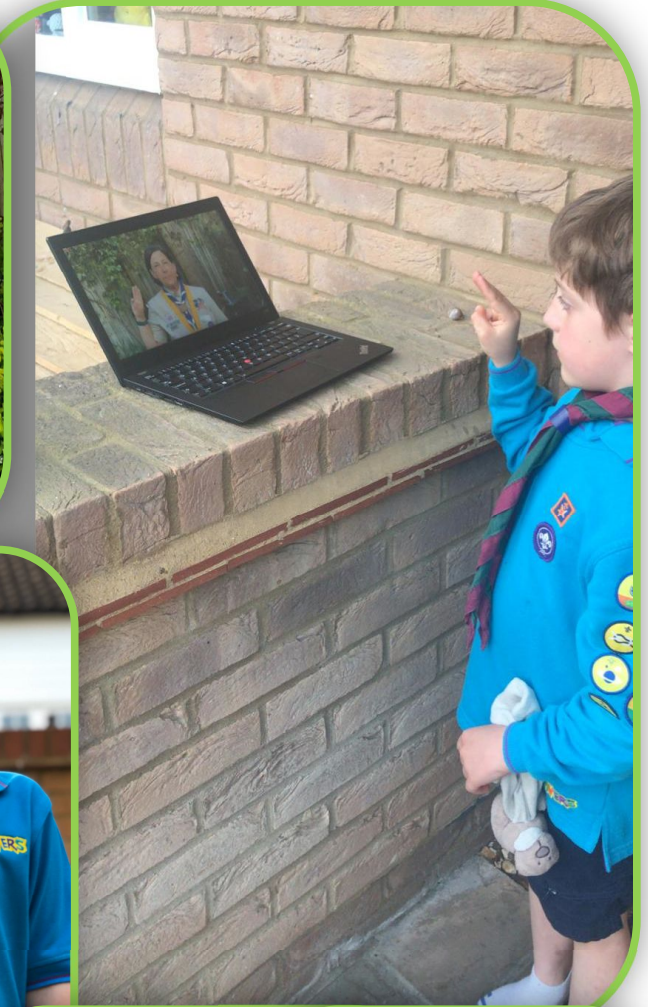
**Diana Cornell**

**1st Baldock Cubs (Templars) Akela**

**Photos opposite**



# 1st Ashwell Beavers Renewing their Scout Promise





A photo of the Young's family renewing their promise on St George's day.  
Louise and Richard Young as 1st Ashwell leaders, Finn Young as a Scout, Riley Young as a Cub and our daughter Erin Young who is in Army cadets.





# 2nd Baldock Scouts

Over the past few weeks, since the start of lockdown, Scout meetings have been held via Zoom. This has been happening weekly and on some occasions, we have an extra meeting on a Tuesday. I think this is a good idea because it keeps everyone in contact with the Troop and we get to chat to our friends and continue with badges and challenges. It is keeping us occupied whilst in lockdown, and even more so when we are completing badges such as, Creative Challenge, and Skills Challenge. One of the highlights of Virtual Scouts so far has been the virtual camp. We pitched tents in our gardens, packed a bag, wore uniform and had a zoom meeting from the tents. I am enjoying virtual Scouts, but I can't wait to get back to face to face meetings, every Friday as usual.

**William, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock Scouts**



I am thoroughly enjoying the virtual Scout meetings that are being held. I have missed seeing people since lockdown and this is the next best thing. We have been doing kahoots online and quizzes to test our knowledge on certain areas of a badge. A couple of weeks ago we did a kahoot on kitchen and food hygiene for part of our Chef's badge. We needed to get a certain score or above to have that area of the badge completed.

We have also been talking about other badges to get covered in the weeks ahead. We decided on the Meteorologist badge and we have made a rain gauge and a wind vane to take the measurements every day for two weeks. To show our Leaders that we have actually done this we take pictures or a video and upload them on OSM (Online Scout Management) on the badge we are completing them for. Then our Scout Leaders can view them and award us

the badge at our meeting time. Other

activities that we have been doing are juggling and diablo for our Circus Skills badge, drawing and painting for our Artist badge and setting a tracking trail for the Navigator's badge.

Recently we renewed our Scout Promise in front of our Leaders. We are doing these meetings via zoom where, if the Leaders want, we can see their screen. That is helpful as they can share information with us quickly. We do these meetings once a week at our normal Scout meeting time and we have enjoyed this so much we have set up another meeting through the week.

I'm looking forward to my next meeting Keep calm and carry on Scouting!

**Evelyn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock Scouts.**



# 2nd Baldock Scouts



up to make an overall team/patrol score. This is a great way to keep scouts actively taking an interest in doing something while having to stay at home!

After this, we move onto discussing the badge that we will all be working towards that week. This week, it is the Meteorologist badge. We have created our own weather recording instruments and every day we are all recording the weather from our garden. Each week, we discuss a part of a badge that we will be contributing towards – for the next two weeks, this is the badge

Over the past couple of weeks, 2nd Baldock Scouts have been meeting over an app called Zoom to have a virtual Scout meeting. We had a variety of technology- some people used computers, some people used phones and some people used tablets or I pads.

Around 20 Scouts joined the meeting with the host, our Scout Leaders Ed, John, Graeme, and Zen, starting the Zoom and sending out the ID and password for Scouts to join.

We meet every Friday, as before, and have had so much to discuss we have added an extra meeting every Tuesday. Once we have all joined, we have a flag break which is a video that a Scout member has created showing the Union Jack flag going up. Then, we look at the entries/pictures Scouts have submitted for different badges. Once we have done that we look at the badges that people have earned at home.

Everything you do for a badge is turned into points. The teams we are in now depends on which patrol we were in - everyone that was in Blue Patrol is now in Gates Team and so on. Every week, these points are added on and the top five Scouts who have 'Kept Calm and Carried on Scouting' are shown upon the screen and applauded. The points everyone in our team has earned that week is then added

we will be looking at, and everyone is enjoying it so far!

Usually after we have discussed this badge, we all play a quiz (mainly kahoot) together. Not only can this contribute to certain badges, but it also makes Scouts fun, and makes our Scout evenings even more enjoyable! We always play at least one quiz every Scout meeting.

After this, there are many options that we do. Sometimes, we do more unrelated Kahoots, sometimes we go into breakout rooms - a 'room' where a small group of people talk about things, related or not to Scouts. Other times we carry on discussing badges and we all input on which badges we want to do, and when.

When doing virtual Scouting, there are many ways for us to be creative. Right now, in our patrols, we are creating a map of 'local' Baldock. One patrol is creating their map through Minecraft, with many meetings in between the main Scout meetings.

We then end the evening with another flag break - this time, flag down.

This is a great way to keep Scouts busy and active during this confusing period, and we recommend it to other Scouting groups!

**Esme, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock Scouts**

# 8th Letchworth Scouts

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 8<sup>th</sup> Letchworth Scouts found a way around the rules stopping people from holding meetings. At 7:30pm I sat in front of my mum's laptop in my Scout uniform and was able to meet the other Scouts and our Leaders across the internet through an app called Zoom.

I wasn't sure what to expect, or how it would work, but it was an incredibly fun evening. Zeke introduced a scavenger hunt and there were 5 things on the screen that we had to do or find. One of them involved getting a parent to wear our Group necker and do the Scout sign, another was to hold or wear a souvenir from a holiday. We all went tearing through our homes, finding the required items and asking our parents to take photos. We could hear and see our friends popping up on the screens and everyone was laughing and having a great time. It was a very welcome distraction from staying home and feeling alone.

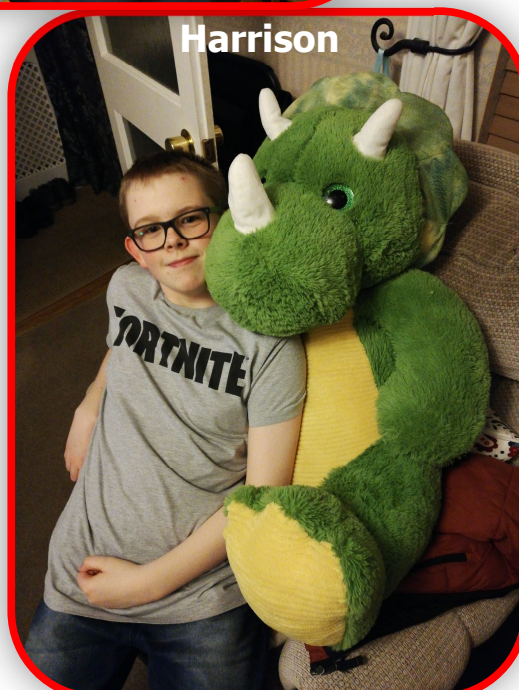
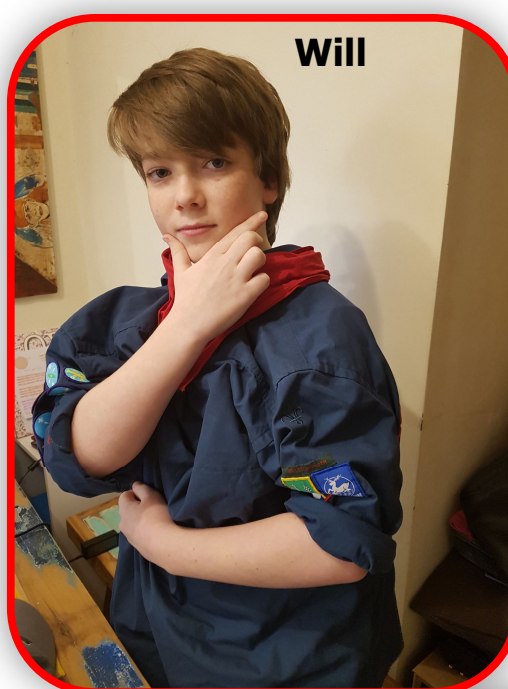
At 8 o'clock we had a break so that we could stand on our doorsteps and join in with the Big Clap for the NHS. It was strange to be standing

out in the dark clapping, but there was a real sense of community as all the neighbours were out clapping – one was even banging a saucepan! Once the clapping had finished, it was back to the laptops for more challenges. My favourite was, "Make your

Scout Promise in an unusual place." I got my mum to film me in the shower, fully clothed, whilst I made my Promise. It took three goes of filming it as I kept getting the words wrong, I was too busy laughing!

It was such a great evening and it was great to be able to carry on with Scouts even though nothing else is normal at the moment. I'm looking forward to our next Zoom meeting, although hopefully I'll stay dry next time!

**Will Honeysett**





# 8th Letchworth Scouts

## #campathome



Day 1 #campathome On the morning of 1st April 2020 we decided to set up camp in our back garden. Firstly we pitched our tents. Then we got the campfire ready. We collected wood then cut it to size and put it in the incinerator with rolled up newspaper. Later that evening we used a camping stove and two instants BBQs to cook our food. We cooked burgers, sausages, fried eggs and beans. It was yummy!. We then lit the campfire. After that we had hot chocolate and biscuits then got ready for bed. Our favourite things were setting up camp, having a campfire and the delicious food we made together.

**Nathan and Natalie Silman**  
**8th Letchworth Scouts**



# Achievements



## Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Oakley Croft	4th Letchworth
Jasper Johnson	4th Letchworth
Alexander Killick	4th Letchworth
Jacob Killick	4th Letchworth
Alexander Warder	4th Letchworth



## Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Ruby Eckers	1st Baldock (Knights)
Jan Kazubek	1st Baldock (Knights)



## Chief Scout's Platinum Award

Jonathan Wing	Oak Eagle ESU
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If you need inspiration for activities to do with your sections whilst in lock down than why not go the Harpenden and Wheathampstead website and click on the "Lock Down Scouting" the weekly magazine with plenty of ideas for everyone.



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