

Scouts



Letchworth, Baldock &
Ashwell

November 2020

No: 686

Newsletter CO-ORDINATOR



Remembrance Sunday.

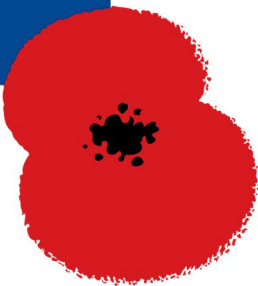
There will be no organised parade for Scouting this year in Letchworth, Baldock or Ashwell.

The District have purchased 3 wreaths which will be laid at the three memorial sites. This will be done by a member of the District Team.

Please encourage Scouts to colour in a Poppy and display it in their windows. They can also wear their uniform and either stand on their doorstep or at their gate for the 2 minute silence on Sunday 8th November at 11am.

We will remember them.

Wendy Tierney DC



What does the poppy symbolise?

The first Poppy Appeal was held in 1921, the founding year of The Royal British Legion. Red silk poppies, inspired by the famous First World War poem 'In Flanders Fields', sold out instantly and raised more than £106,000. The funds were vital, helping First World War veterans find employment

and housing after the war.

The following year, the Poppy Factory was set up, employing disabled ex-servicemen to create poppies to sell during the appeal. Today, the factory still produces millions of poppies each year.

By wearing a poppy, you aren't just remembering servicemen and women: you're supporting a new generation of veterans and service personnel.



To remember Armistice Day try making your own poppy in different materials, please go to:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/activities/>

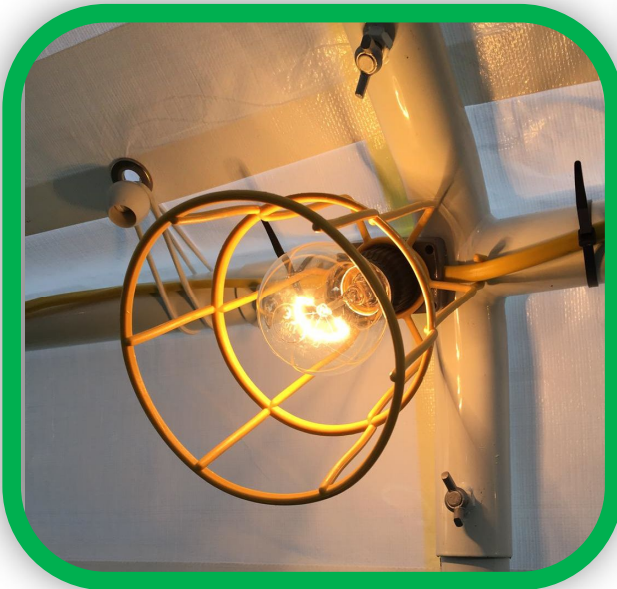


District Headquarters



There is a fantastic new shelter in the garden of DHQ. It will allow the use the garden in all weathers and it has lights for evening use too. This will be a great asset for any groups using DHQ all year round.

The shelter has been bought with money raised by Glenn Read, Oak Eagle Assistant Explorer Leader, and Apryl Goodwin, District Secretary, who both work at Settle. They have been cooking bacon rolls and cooked breakfasts for their colleagues every Friday. A big thank you to you both for your hard work and the great shelter.



The District Scout and Guide Shop reopened on Thursday 15th October. For the time being it will only be open on Thursday, term time between 6.00 - 8.00 pm. This will be reviewed in the New Year.

When visiting the Shop please wear a face covering.

A reminder that the Shop can only take cash or cheque.

8th Letchworth Scouts Garden City Heritage Treasure Hunt

On the 1st October, 8th Letchworth Scouts group went on a treasure hunt around Letchworth. There was a clue at every land mark. We had to write down letters on each clue and at the end we had to join them all together to find the sentence.

We met up at Saint Michael's Church on the Broadway ready with all our gear and clothing. We walked down the road to the UK's first ever roundabout. At this land mark, the clue was on the wooden sign on the roundabout.

Then, we walked approximately half a mile to get to Howgills Quaker Meeting Room. We had to look for a wooden sign board on the Sollershatt East boundary of Howgills. We went on and visited Cloisters, Ebenezer Howard's House, Howard Park, The Settlement, Original Garden City Cottage and finally The Spirella Building. Each landmark had a clue to find.

When we had completed our journey and collected all of the letters from the clues we worked out the answer "**Lord Baden Powell 1908**" which is important to the Scouts as he was the founder.



I really enjoyed the treasure hunt and seeing all the land marks around Letchworth. My favourite land mark was The Spirella Building because we saw Ebenezer Howard's statue and it was the final clue to find the answer.

**Samuel Biggs -
8th Letchworth
Scout**



Date: Saturday 28 November

Time: 12.00 pm - 5.45 pm

Cost: £4.50 per participant

Hertfordshire Scout Monopoly Challenge is back and this year they are going virtual.

Open to Scouts, (aged 12+ Scouts teams to be accompanied by a Leader), Explorer Scouts, Scout Network and Leaders.

The cost is £4.50 per participant, and everyone gets a limited edition souvenir Monopoly Challenge Badge.

There are also prizes to be won, so be strategic in how you play the game!

Leaders sign your teams up by going to:

<https://hertfordshirescouts.cinolla.com/phaselswood/courses/monopoly2020>

BBC Children in Need 2020 Appeal Show - 13th November 2020



Together, we can make a huge difference in a time when it's needed most.



Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre



It is now four weeks since Wymondley Wood was opened for outside use. In that time we have had 24 bookings, which included Explorers, Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies, Beavers, Rainbows and Trefoil Guild. A great cross section wouldn't you say?

Our first 4 wardens, Clair Calver, Claire Charles, Brian and Sarah Plater and this last week Karen Green have done a fantastic job blazing the trail for a return to semi normal Scouting and Guiding.

There have been far more evening visits than we have ever had in the past at this time of year. Normally evenings are very quiet by now. Many thanks to them and to those of you who follow. We really appreciate your commitment. You are needed now more than ever.

The next three weeks are almost fully booked too.

We have opened the house now for indoor meetings and yesterday afternoon it was occupied for the first time since March by a Hitchin Brownie unit. We have several more Saturday bookings and after half term the house has been booked for most evenings by groups who for one reason or another are unable to use their own halls.

The last month has seen groups making different arrangements according to how they have planned and risk assessed their meetings. They have all followed our procedures and the wardens have been happy with how they have complied.

It is so good to see children once more at the centre. Zoom meetings are fine but there is nothing like "real" Guiding and Scouting.

Let's hope we are allowed to continue and ultimately get back to having residential visits. However, this doesn't look like being very soon. We can but hope and be ready for when we are permitted once more.

Maybe we will have a Grand Reopening!!

Maureen Kell — Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre Booking Secretary

8th Letchworth Cubs

Letchworth Autumn Clean Up



I did some litter picking in my local neighbourhood .

I started to pick up litter with bags and found it difficult so moved onto buckets in a wheelbarrow.

I was very upset and surprised to see the 5 bags of litter we collected in 3 hours.

I'm happy to know I helped save a few animals lives.

Emma 8th Letchworth Cubs.

Plastic Free Letchworth had spread the word and asked "Can your household do a Surfer's Against Sewage Mini-Clean of a space near your door?". Six groups reported that they had taken up the challenge.

Some quotes from the day from our lovely facebook supporters:

"We went out around Blackhorse Road / Works Road & the path in between. My 9 year old was shocked by how much litter people drop. Managed to squeeze the recyclables into our bin"

"We went around the Grange Rec/fields. It was shocking to find more rubbish on the playing fields on our way back after we have already picked some up on our way earlier! My 6 year old enjoyed it and was very impressed with himself picking up all the rubbish. He kept on asking why people leave it behind. I told him that probably no one had taught them otherwise. He thinks that the Prime Minister should punish them!"

"We went on the Grange pick.. some really littered areas, but only a couple of masks and around the school was really clear!" (though sadly the rest of the Grange Group found more face masks).



Our thanks to everyone who joined in with this socially distanced event!

1st Ashwell Beavers

1st Ashwell Beavers completed our cycling badge recently.

All the Beavers proved very competent cyclists and enjoyed the games as well as learning about the safety equipment needed.

They can now all pump up their tyres and adjust their own helmets.

We spoke about needing lights in the evenings and actually needed to use them by the time the Beavers got picked up.



How to earn your badge:

1. Find out why it's important to wear safety equipment like a helmet, reflective clothing and lights.
2. Show how to put on and wear a cycle helmet correctly
3. Show how to pump up a tyre
4. Go for a short ride in a safe place.



Achievements



Chief Scout's Bronze Award

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Isaac Brown | 1st Baldock |
| Emilla Butt | 1st Baldock |
| Cameron Chivers | 1st Baldock |
| Billy Kaniewski | 2nd Baldock |



Chief Scout's Silver Award

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Ollie Butt | 1st Baldock (Templars) |
| Thomas Chivers | 1st Baldock (Templars) |
| Alfred Pedersen | 2nd Baldock |
| Eleanor Roberts | 1st Baldock (Knights) |
| Miles Rofe | 1st Baldock (Knights) |

Save the Date

Hertfordshire County Scout Council are pleased to announce that the date for the County AGM has been set for the **14 November 2020 at 11am.**

Formal invites are to follow but please save the date as all are welcome to join us via Teams.



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