



LOCHEARNHEAD 2021



Notification of cancellation

It is with a sad heart and deep regret that we have to advise that this years trip to Lochearnhead Station has had to be cancelled. We have been working hard with the 2 other

Districts that were visiting this summer, the County Activity Centre Management Team and the County Commissioner to try and find a way to let the trip go ahead in some form. Unfortunately a mixture of Covid-19 restrictions, Scottish legislation and a large amount of work required to bring the Station in line with both of these elements means that we have now run out of time to complete the works in time for Summer. Added to this the uncertainty of both the movement restrictions in both Countries and social distancing restrictions likely on coaches makes planning with any certainty virtually impossible.

I appreciate this will be extremely disappointing for all 100 of our Young People who have signed up for the trip and I can assure you that both the Organising Team and every Leader who had signed up will be equally disheartened.

As yet we have no idea when our next opportunity to visit will be but rest assured that when we are able to re-schedule our next visit to the Station Young People who already had places or were on the waiting list and are still members of the Scout movement (and aged under 18 for the new dates) will be given priority offers of places.

Once again please accept our apologies for having to cancel the trip, it really is a last resort to do this.

Chris King
Station Master

Wendy Tierney
District Commissioner

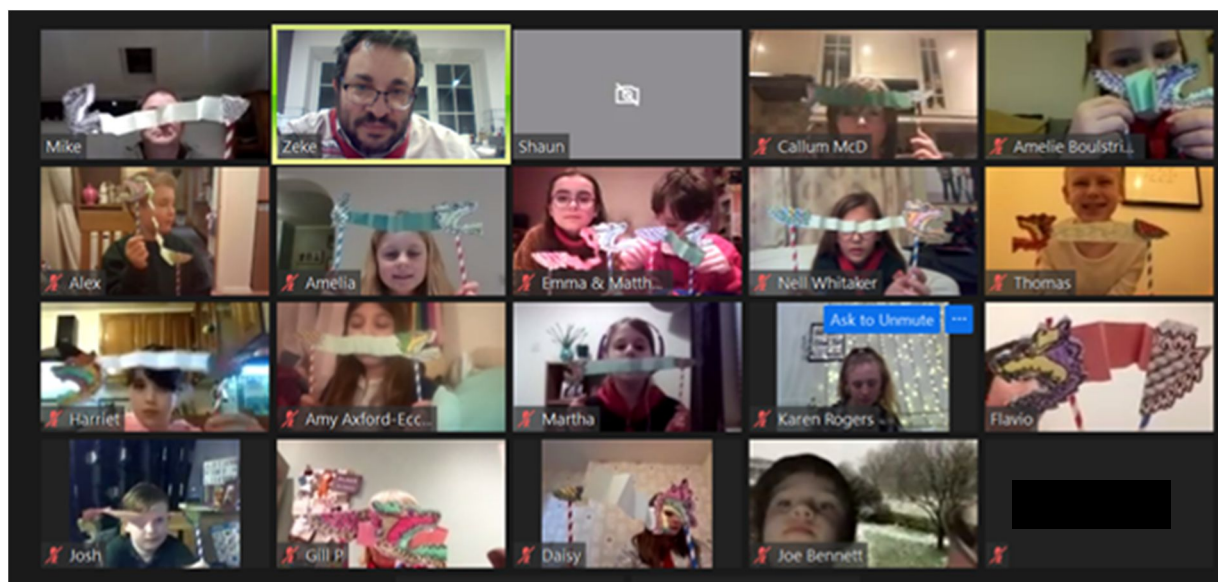
8th Letchworth Cubs

We had a pets meeting at Cubs on Zoom. I showed my cat, Pitch. His favourite treats are Whiskas dry treats. We called him Pitch because he is pitch black. His body is black and his front/back feet are white as well as his chest. He is 16 in human years and in cat years he is 80. Most of the day he sleeps in his cat bed by the radiator. If he's not in his cat bed then he's eating and if not eating he's either by the fire (If its on) or sleeping/sitting on someone's lap.

Nell W - 8th Letchworth Cub



This week 8th Letchworth Cubs worked on part of the Naturalist badge and spent the first part of the evening talking about which types of birds the Cubs had seen in their gardens whilst taking part on the Great British Birdwatch.



8th Letchworth Cubs took part in a Chinese New Year themed evening to celebrate 2021, the year of the Ox. They spent their time making dragon puppets, then tried their hand with chop sticks that they were all very good at. There was just enough time to try eating Seaweed which didn't go down very well, luckily the fortune Cookies lifted their spirits.

8th Letchworth Scouts



Over three Zoom meetings this term 8th Letchworth Scouts have been working on the Science & Engineering Careers Challenge set up by the RAL Space Facility. We took part in 6 activities from the 20 available covering everything from Data Science to Mechanical Engineering to Science Communications.

Can Lemons really replace batteries?

On Thursday, 21st January 2021, for the technology badge, the Scouts got together on zoom (it was Covid times) to find out for ourselves if lemons can really replace batteries or if it is just fake news.

We each had four lemons, though I don't know why because we only used two, some wires, four small metal plates (two copper and two zinc) and two mini light bulbs which we hoped to light.

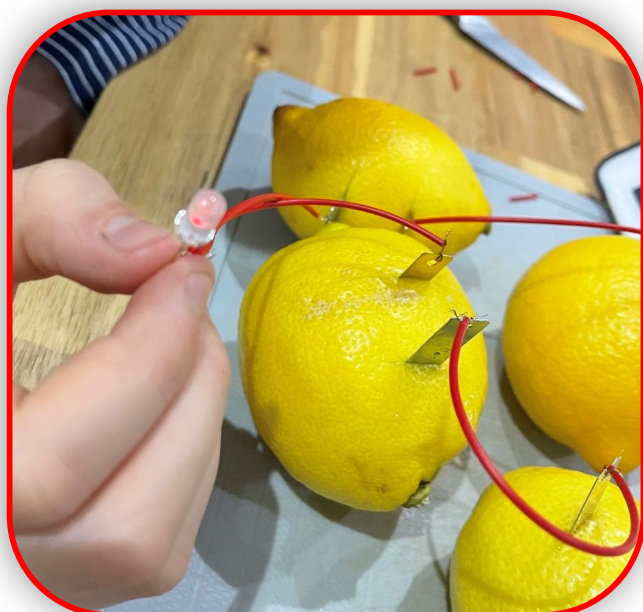
First, we discarded two lemons and put one copper and one zinc plate into each of the remaining lemons. Then we joined one of the zinc plates in one lemon to the copper plate in the other lemon using a wire. We continued to add a wire to each of the remaining plates and joined them to a lightbulb in the centre (we discarded the other light bulb).

The end result looked somewhat like the photographs (a series circuit with lemons instead of batteries)

When we all connected our circuits, half of the circuits worked, and the light lit up. However, for the unlucky few who had two busted lightbulbs (me included) nothing happened, which was very disappointing because we could see the other lightbulbs on our screen, lighting up.

So the overall conclusion for this question is... Lemons can replace a battery for a very tiny lightbulb, so I wouldn't count on them to light your torch when camping as you would probably need a tent of lemons which isn't very practical. Besides, in the English weather, they would probably go mouldy.

I really enjoyed doing this and I found it very interesting how the copper and the zinc reacts with the chemicals in the lemon to conduct electricity.



Skye Fourie– 8th Letchworth Scouts

8th Letchworth Scouts

I thoroughly enjoyed the first of 3 science and technology evenings. Even though we did it online, everyone got really involved and it was good fun. Firstly, we created an LED battery circuit that was powered by lemons. Mine sadly didn't work but a few people managed to make a functioning light powered by the oxidised ions in the juice of their lemons.

We then made a contraption out of an empty 2 litre bottle. We cut the bottle a third of the way from the top and placed the top third of the bottle, upside down, in the remaining 2/3s. We have placed them in our back gardens and are hoping that when it rains, our bottles will fill up. We used permanent marker to mark measurement lines on our bottles. This would mean that we would be able to measure the amount of rain that had fallen.

George Hardy - 8th Letchworth Scouts

On Thursday we did a marshmallow spaghetti challenge. There were different challenges to try. One challenge was to build the tallest possible structure you could using only a certain amount of marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti. I found that making a triangular structure at the bottom made my building the most secure, but everyone had different ideas. The challenges were interesting and fun, and I only ate a few marshmallows whilst constructing!

Callum Philbey - 8th Letchworth Scouts



5th Letchworth Scout Group

In the second instalment of the 5th Letchworth shed replacement. The now dismantled wooden shed, after seeking permission from the Wymondley wood Committee, was transported to the campfire at the Centre and reduced to a pile of ashes.



Stiofan, ASL, watching over the burning of the shed.

All government social distancing guidelines were followed.



This is what's left of the shed

Part three to follow next month.

My Experience Helping as a Young Leader at 1st Baldock (Templars) Cubs

I started volunteering at Cubs as part of my Bronze DofE and it has been such a great experience. Not only have my leadership skills improved, but also my confidence has grown massively. I loved volunteering as a Young Leader because I got to help run activities but also take part in some! It was also a great way to meet new Cubs and be able to see them progress through Scouting.

Over my time as a Young Leader, I helped with many activities and got to see the Cubs join in with activities that were new but also ones they were familiar with. I loved being able to offer advice and help them with activities. My first week helping at Cubs was at Wymondley Woods where we got to have a go at collecting sticks and making fires! I got to help the Cubs use matches to light the sticks they collected and we made some great fires. As a group we experimented with different materials to keep the fire burning and it was great to see what ideas the Cubs came up with!

One of my favourite activities was going to Avenue Park and helping the Cubs with doing activities for their Athletics badge. They had to compete in running activities and games to go towards their badge. It was really exciting as it was dark, so we had to use torches to light up the park. Overall it was a great activity to help with and do!

Another activity I really enjoyed was writing letters to the people at the local elderly home this Christmas, it was so lovely sending festive messages to the elderly people who might not get to spend the festive period with their family and friends. We all wrote messages and drew pictures to go inside the cards and dropped them off to Shires Funeral Directors and they delivered them to the nursing home. It was a great thing to do and everyone was pleased to have helped make someone's day.

Overall, volunteering at Cubs has been such a great opportunity and I have loved all of it! It has been a wonderful experience and it has helped me grow so much as a Scout.

Rose H - 1st Baldock Cub (Templars) Y.L.



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