

John Moys
1933 - 2022

John devoted his life to the service of Scouting and duly received a 50 year Long Service Award.

He started his Scouting adventure in Maidstone where he was Assistant Cub Master 1951 - 1955 and later District Cub Master 1955 - 1959.

On moving to Letchworth he joined the 7th Letchworth Scout Group as an Assistant Scout Master in 1962 and became Group Scout Leader 1971 - 1972. Ever since this time he remained loyal to the Group and followed their activities with interest.

John was an accountant by profession and when he retired from grassroots Scouting he used his business skills to ensure the efficient management of Scouting in the District as a member of the District Executive.

He served as Treasurer and Chairman 1972 - 1998. He earned the respect of his colleagues because of the conscientious and efficient manner in which he undertook his duties and for the support and advice which he gave so readily. This was recognised by the award of the Medal of Merit in 1979 and the Bar to the Award of Merit in 1987.

On resigning from the District Executive he became District President 1990 - 2001.

He completed his Scouting days as a member of the Active Support Unit.

He was active in the local community where he was a good ambassador for Scouting.

We will miss his friendly smile and warm personality but we will remember with gratitude his contribution to local Scouting.

1st Ashwell Scout Camp Lesley Sell Activity Centre 15 - 17 July 2022

We arrived on Friday about 6:30pm pitching our tents. Once the tents were up the Scout Leaders split us into three groups and told us we were going on a letter scavenger hunt round the site. When we had found all the letters, we needed to decipher the anagram of these letters, my patrol's group word was Bromham which is the little village the Centre is in.

After a good first sleep, one of the patrols made breakfast on a barbecue. We enjoyed sausages, bacon and eggs with ketchup. In our patrols we had fun with archery, building and shooting our own trebuchets out of pieces of wood and using square lashings to tie up the wood and a cup and elastic to fire water balloons with.

Matthew Vickerstaff - 1st Ashwell Scout



Saturday Afternoon

After lunch, the three patrols set out separately to go on a hike around the local area. I was the Patrol leader of Oak-ley Patrol and we set off second. I carried one of the maps, so I was at the front my group. Stationed around the hike were the Leaders, to help us on the next part of the trail. About halfway around the walk, we got to go in a river which was very refreshing due to the sweltering day. We all swam in the river, splashing each other. After the river, everybody wanted to get to the shop so all of us ran the last bit because we thought it was closing. But we went the wrong way, and we went through a cow field; they ended up chasing half of us away under a gate while the other half with me in, climbed over an electric fence and tried to find the others. When we had found the others, we all ran to the town where the shop was located. We thought it closed at 5:30 and when we got there at 5:36 we realised it was the post office that closed at 5:30 and the shop closed at 7:30. We had all run for 45 minutes for nothing. When everyone had bought something, we set off again and about 1 hour later we got back to camp.

For dinner we had pasta bolognaise and for dessert, cakes and custard, they were both very good. At 10:00 we had a campfire where each patrol had to perform a song or form of entertainment. My patrol did Sponge-bob square-pants. We also had hot chocolate before bed.

Sunday Morning

For breakfast we had sausages, eggs and bacon in a bun which took a long time to cook and cereal. After breakfast we did the Scouts Own and talked about camp. We then played on the waterslide for an hour, sliding down a small hill. Just before we left, we packed up the camp. At the end Oak-ley got the most points for how well we completed the camp activities, and we won some sweets! Then we left and went home.

Toby Denham - 1st Ashwell Scouts





Oak Eagle Explorer Scout Unit

Twenty Explorers from Oak Eagle ESU went to Norfolk for 5 days of fun. We camped at Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Centre in Norwich.

We packed as many activities into the programme as possible. Monday we did high ropes and archery at the site.

Tuesday we had a whole day at Whitlingham Adventure Park which is a fabulous water centre in Norwich. We did sailing, kayaking and team challenges, despite lack of wind, then thunder and lots of wind.

Wednesday was hike day. 17km which included sand dunes, fields, windmills, woods, a ruined church and rivers.

Thursday we set off to Cromer. After investigating the local area we played crazy golf and had chips. Then we wiggled into wetsuits for a surf lesson. The boards were big and the waves were bouncy and fun. The day finished with tomahawk throwing.

The Explorers put loads of effort into all the activities. They tried their hardest and the results were impressive. They topped the high rope course. Improved their water sports skills. Found their way around the countryside and had brilliant fun in the sea. They worked well together, supported each other and had lots of fun. Very well done to them all.

Thanks very much to the Leader team that helped make it all happen. Glenn, Apryl, Chris and Rob.

Clair Calver - ESL



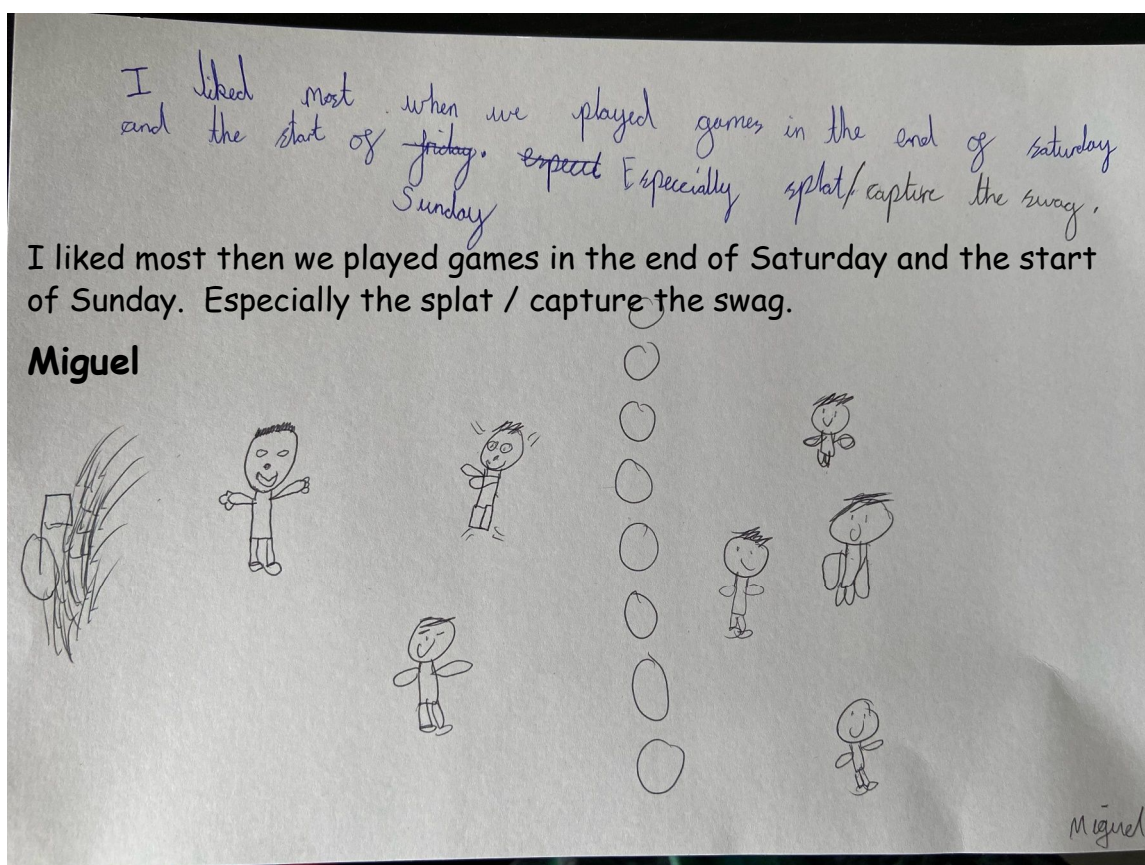
7th Letchworth Cub Camp Weekend Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre 1 - 3 July 2022

As a really new Leader I got invited to my first camp and what a great day it was! I loved seeing how much all of the children enjoyed the different activities. We couldn't believe how high the bottle rockets flew into the air! There wasn't a minute during the day where there wasn't smiles which was lovely to see. And even though it started pouring with rain just as the songs around the camp fire were about to start, we didn't let it stop us and the sing song we had was a lovely end to such an enjoyable day! Thank you to all the Beavers, Cubs and Leaders for welcoming me into the Scouting family.

Sarah -7th Letchworth Leader

"My favourite thing at camp was sitting round the campfire singing songs and toasting marshmallows."

Bonnie



After a short break 7th Letchworth Scout Troop will be reopening on Friday 16th September 2022

They will be meeting at St Thomas Church Hall, Bedford Road 7.30pm until 9.30pm. At the moment the troop will be lead by a number of Leaders from the 7th Letchworth Scout Group with the support of ADC Scouts. For more information please contact:

amanda@lbdscouts.org.uk



**8th Letchworth Cub Pack Holiday
Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Activity
Centre - Norwich
8—12 August 2022**

On the 8th August 8th Letchworth Cubs travelled to Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Activity Centre to spend 4 nights under canvas for their first summer camp in several years. Cubs were able to try crate stacking, canoeing and climbing, we spent an afternoon at Mundesley beach having fish & chips for dinner. To finish off a great week Cubs spent the day at Bewilderwood Adventure Park searching out Mildred and the Crocklebog.

Zeke - 8th Letchworth GSL

During the summer I attended Cub Camp at Eaton Vale.

I recommend canoeing because it was nice working as a team slowly down the river.

I liked the crate stacking as I felt like I was flying.

The pedal carting was great fun and I really enjoyed it.

**E Stapleton -
8th Letchworth Cub**

"I really enjoyed my time at Cub camp and most of all I liked the canoeing and jumping in the lake at the end... I least enjoyed the crate stacking as it freaked me out a little but overall I had loads of fun"

**Reece Carter -
8th Letchworth Cub**



4TH LETCHWORTH SCOUT GROUP

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 24th

September

18:00-20:00

St Paul's Church
Hall

Adults £3.50 / Child £2.50
(Max 8 per table)
includes Jacket Potato with Choice
of toppings

Raffle with Great Prizes
Sweet & Tuck Shop

BAR WITH ALCOHOLIC & SOFT DRINKS

to book a place please e-mail committee@4thlethworth.com

District Shooting Competition Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre 3 July 2022

The competition kicked off with Oak Eagle ESU Scouts at 9.00 am followed by 1st Baldock A Team, 1st Baldock B team, 4th Letchworth, 8th Letchworth and 2nd Baldock.

The competition in past years also included the Archery competition but due to the instructors having Covid this had to be postponed and will be held at a later date.

Results

1st	1st Baldock A	146
2nd	8th Letchworth	133
2nd	2nd Baldock	133
3rd	4th Letchworth	116
4th	1st Baldock B	85



Individual Results

Hannah M	1st Baldock B	38
Felix P	1st Baldock B	38
Emily C	1st Baldock B	37
Sean R	8th Letchworth	32
Emma R	8th Letchworth	31
Matthew G	4th Letchworth	31



8th Letchworth Scout Summer Camp
Plas Dolygaer, Pontsticill
Brecon Beacons
24 - 31 July 2022

We had so much fun when we were at camp and did so many different activities. We all enjoyed gorge walking where we jumped into plunge pools and did cannonballs in to the water. We also did a canoe excursion where we canoed

21.3km over the 2 days. We slept under the canoes in the open air! We did lots of cooking which was lots of fun too. My favourite bit (after gorge walking) was having ice cream after we (the younger group) finished the hike... we were planning on keeping it secret but someone told the older group who had been climbing a mountain!

We played lots of games including cards and had a movie night one evening and did so many other great things. I had a great time and hope I'm able to go again, I would definitely recommend it to anyone thinking of going next year...

Martha - 8th Letchworth Scout



8th Letchworth Scout Summer Camp

Plas Dolygaer, Pontsticill

We left the Scout HQ and drove for around 5 or 6 hours, stopping once for lunch at a service station, before arriving at the place we were staying in. We didn't do much on the first day because we had to unpack and get all our stuff set up, but we did manage to get down to the lake where many of us attempted to skim stones (and failed). We then devoted our attention to hurling rocks at a larger rock with a slight crack in it to break it fully. After that, the dinner group for that night (we had a duty roster for who did what each day) made dinner and apparently Caitlin almost gave us salmonella poisoning because she thought pink chicken was cooked. Laughing at that, we ate. Afterwards, no one really did anything apart from pack their daysacks until bed time.

The next morning, we discovered that Emma is a deep sleeper and it takes a lot of

shouting to wake her up. Breakfast was somehow still on time, and we were ready to go for the day pretty quickly. We still ended up behind schedule because Jemma (the lady who was doing most of the activities with us that week) was driving a route someone else gave her and we ended up spending half an hour reversing the minibus out of a farm driveway. We walked up a steep hill for a bit and set up for rock climbing. I spent most of the day belaying other people up the rock face, which required three of us at once so everyone was safe. Although admittedly it didn't feel completely safe dangling from a rock face with nothing but three Scouts preventing you from plummeting backwards to your death. We took down the equipment after a few hours and headed back to base, where I insisted on cooking the spaghetti for Spag Bol. We planned the routes for our hill walks, and called it a night (a few hours later).

On Tuesday, we drove for an hour to go gorge walking, which was agreeably one of the best activities we did. This involved walking through a river, climbing up a small waterfall, and leaping off the bank into a plunge pool a few meters below us. Amazing! We sat down for lunch, where it turned out Harry had been a bit scarce with the amount of jam in sandwiches. Then we went on a walk to a large waterfall where Cameron and Martha were invested, and Dylan and I were awarded our gold awards. The Leaders then demonstrated why good map reading skills were so important by making us walk up about 275 steps, just to have to walk back down them and up the other side. Thanks guys. We drove back for dinner and a night of relaxation and too much Go Fish.

Cont'd.....



On Wednesday we split into two hill walking groups; older Scouts plus Emma, and younger Scouts plus Caitlin. The first group (my group) were dropped off at the base of Pen Y Fan and climbed the full 886m up the steep hillside. Mike then told us the rest of the walk was gentle downhill or flat walk, but the actual planned route took us across three more steep peaks before we reached fully flat ground. Real gentle walk, ay Mike? Anyway, we reached our base of action at exactly 17:30hrs (the original planned time of arrival) despite the fact we set off late. We then discovered that the other group stopped at a tearoom and got ice cream on their route. Humph. Also, there was an issue with non-existent jam in Harry's jam sandwich, which meant we all made our own lunches from that point on. We had dinner, I wrote in the camp diary, and we watched a movie that Jay downloaded in the ASDA carpark (the Wi-Fi was really bad where we were).

On Thursday we drove to the agreed point of the start of what everyone was waiting for, the canoeing expedition. We packed everything into barrels, had lunch, and set off. 30 seconds in and Joseph was somehow already waist deep in water. We paddled down the river Wye with only a couple of issues. Problems being: Zeke and Adam capsizing several minutes in, Joseph and Dylan being sat in the wrong places for coordination and Cameron getting stranded waist deep at some rapids after Harry paddled off. I also had a stranded issue, that being that my boat moved while I was helping another group off rocks. Ah, Joseph. I hitched a lift with them to get back into my boat, then Sofia and Martha switched boats so everyone got along a bit better, and finally we paddled into England and docked to camp. We set up shelters using tarps, paddles and canoes, then cooked mostly super noodles,

then Emma got hyper from the noodles and knocked down a shelter, then we stayed up chilling and ate cake before trying to sleep. Apparently at some point Joseph woke up with his head in our shelter (thankfully he didn't bring it down on our heads).

I woke up on Friday with Emma's legs on me and her head over Martha. We all got up and ate porridge, then packed up and paddled down the river. Unfortunately, in the last hour, two people capsized at once, then Zeke and Adam capsized again in the last stretch. Somehow we all made it, only to have to carry the canoes uphill on a road, across said road and to the trailer. I get the whole "get it done quickly" mentality, but still. Not fair. We then chilled in the river for a while, drifting in the current, then helping others fight said current, before heading back for fish'n'chips and supposedly an early night. We were still playing spoons at midnight for some reason.

The next morning it was raining when we woke up, which was fine cause we were inside at a coal museum. Jay also left early to go see Lady Gaga. Everyone said how they would miss him and his unsuccessful attempts to conceal opening a can of coke from us. We had lunch on the bus, then headed into Brecon where I bought too much sugar. Dylan, Cameron, Joseph and I spent the last half hour or so in Morrison's coffee shop, at which Joseph discovered free sugar sachets. We drove back to pack up and spend one last night at the centre before leaving on Sunday. The journey was definitely more exciting on the way up. Anyhow, it was a relief to get back.

Ciara McDermott - 8th Letchworth Scouts

8th Letchworth Scout Expedition Challenge

This summer 8th Letchworth Scouts completed their Expedition Challenge badge on the River Wye. We started the journey in the small town of Hay-on-Wye where Scouts were tasked with packing their overnight kit, including sleeping bags, food and cooking equipment into 8 small water proof containers. After a safety briefing they all helped fill the canoes with their kit, launched their own canoes into the river and paddled downstream. The going was hard to begin with due to low levels of water. Scouts often had to get out (or fall out in some cases) to pull their canoes back into the deeper water. The first day of the expedition was around 11km in length, Scouts enjoyed beautiful scenery and lots of wildlife.

Our overnight stop was a farmer's field on the river bank. Scouts had to carry their canoes from the river onto the field where they then used the canoes to build shelters. Scouts cooked their own dinner on Trangia's and then enjoyed a quiet campfire. The following morning Scouts made breakfast before striking camp.

We carried on canoeing down the River Wye for another 12km. The majority of the river on day 2 was deeper and much easier to paddle down, there were a couple of challenging sections and these found several Scouts and Leaders capsizing in the water. Scouts did very well at controlling their boats during the second day and had to avoid hazards like small islands and fishermen's lines. The expedition ended at the Bredwardine bridge beach. Scouts had to carry their canoes up the bank and across the river. This was very difficult as the Scouts were tired and the canoes heavy. Everyone did really well over the 24hrs and feedback from the trip was very positive.

Zeke - 8th Letchworth GSL



8th Letchworth Scout Expedition Challenge

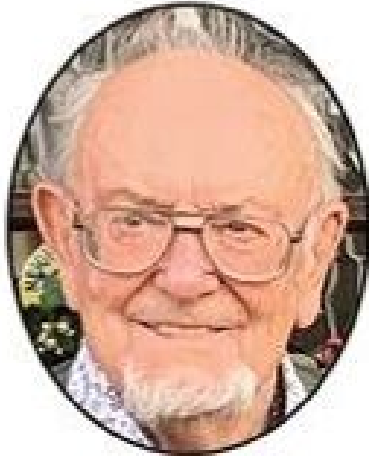
On the expedition we started off into fast moving water and started to paddle, we had a long 10.3km journey ahead of us. After the fast water started the water slowed to a ripple and then we hit the rapids. Me and my 'canoe buddy' Ben shot through the rapids but then got beached in the shallows. Thankfully we managed to get back into the deep without climbing out of the canoe by pushing off with our paddles. There were many rapids, and at times we had to climb out and push through stones and rocks.

When we reached the campsite we all carried the canoes down to where we were staying, we pitched our canoe tents and had Super Noodles on Trangia'. When it was dark enough we went to sleep outside.

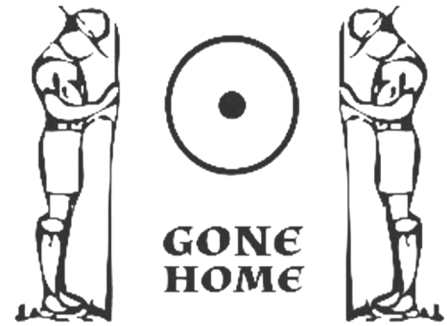
The next day we started off by packing our canoes and pushing off, heading downstream. Many rapids later we hit a rough patch of water where my canoe got stuck in a tree and capsized. Harry and Cameron's canoe collided with ours and they capsized as well. We waded to the shore while Leaders pulled our canoes to the side. After a few hours we finally reached the finish and headed back to our base.

Sam Parkinson - 8th Letchworth Scout





Mick Balls
1936 - 2022



Mick held a warrant as a Cub Leader at the 2nd Baldock and 4th Letchworth Scout Groups but he was best known for his role at our activity centres.

He joined the committee of the Norton Bury Activity Centre and when that centre closed its door in 2003 he moved on to the Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Activity Centre. Mick's enthusiasm for this role was such that he also helped at the Hertfordshire Guide Centre, Cottesloe.

In 2018 he was awarded the 40 year Long Service Award.

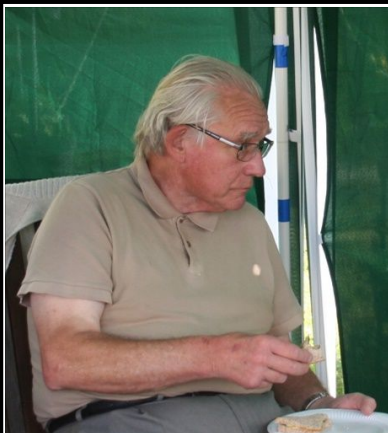
Mick contributed wisely to discussions on the running and development of the Centre and his skills as a handyman dealing with repairs and maintenance were invaluable.

He was a cheerful and friendly person who did not know the word 'no'. Whatever he was asked to do Mick undertook the task without question and in good humour.

He did not seek personal reward but gained considerable satisfaction from seeing the enjoyment of the children enjoying adventurous activities at the Centre.

He enjoyed his role as a warden and his friendliness and helpfulness were much appreciated by visitors to the Centre.

Mick worked quietly and unassumingly in the background but his contribution to Scouting was enormous.



David Northover
1940 - 2022



David's early years as a Scout Leader were spent in Bedfordshire where he served the 1st Potton Scout Group as Group Scout Leader. He was also Secretary and Information Officer for the BP Scout Guild. Later he moved to Biggleswade where he helped at the District Scout and Guide Shop.

In Letchworth he served as Group Scout Leader at the 10th Letchworth Scout Group and he was active in the early days of Norton Bury Scout and Guide Activity Centre where he helped raise funds.

In his later years he was a member of the Letchworth Active Support Unit and helped as a Warden at the Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre.



YouShape Award - Cubs

Spike Atkinson	1st Baldock
Eddie Chapman	1st Baldock
James Dunstan	1st Baldock



Chief Scout's Bronze Award

William Bolster – Vis	12th Letchworth
Prebhjas Jandu	12th Letchworth
David Sexton	12th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Silver Award

Sebastian Carrod	12th Letchworth
Charlie Hall	12th Letchworth
Freddie Harvey	12th Letchworth
Richie Hawkins	1st Baldock
Samuel MacArthur	1st Baldock
Oliver Thomas	12th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Gold Award

Dylan Griffiths	8th Letchworth
Ciara McDermott	8th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Platinum Award

Terry Denyer	Oak Eagle ESU
Josh Garner	Oak Eagle ESU
Freddie Hartley	Oak Eagle ESU
Oliver Peacock	Oak Eagle ESU

Diary Dates 2022

SEPTEMBER

- 8 District Executive Meeting
- 8 Scout and Guide Shop reopens
- 12 District Cub Leaders' Meeting
- 14 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting
- 16 Activity Spectacular at Phasels (ASAP)
- 24 County - Cubs Activity Day - Tolmers
- 24 4th Letchworth Scout Group Quiz
- 25 County - Cubs Activity Day - Tolmers



OCTOBER

- 2 District Cub Day Out - Duxford
- 9 County Cub Cyclo-Cross - Well End
- 12 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting
- 13 District Executive Meeting +
- 14 JOTA / JOTI
- 14 - 16 County Peak Assault



NOVEMBER

- 9 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting
- 14 District Cub Leaders' Meeting
- 18 Green Beret - Tolmers



Subscription - The UK HQ membership fee for 2023-24 will be £36 per youth member. It's important to note that this amount only covers services provided by UK Headquarters,

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