

July/August 1998 No: 440

Co-ordinator

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

TROOP LEADERSHIP COURSE

Has your Scout Troop heard of the Troop Leadership Course? It is a complete course for Patrol Leaders, Assistant Patrol Leaders and Leaders, training people in programme planning, individual and team responsibilities, and establishing and running Patrol Leader Councils.

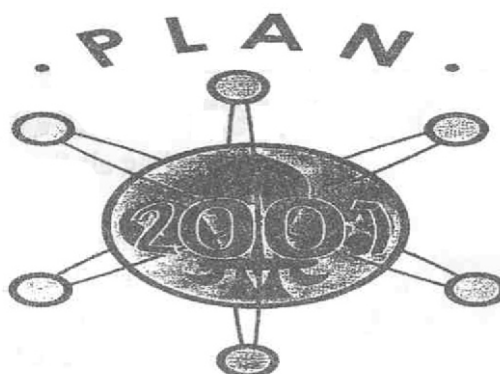
The pack available from the Resource at Gilwell Park for £8.75, includes all the material and worksheets necessary to run this interesting and valuable course. The course, together with resources like the Ruff Guide (also available from the Resource Centre) can seriously alter the way your Troop is organized and run. Why not ask your District/County Training Team to get hold of a copy and organise the course? It would be a fun way for Leaders and Patrol Leaders to get to know each other better and operate effectively as a team.

FOUND

A camera case was found outside St George's Church after the St George's Day Service - Please contact Bob Williams

PLAN 2001

A THREE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCOUT SECTION



AIMS

- * to increase the quantity of young people within the Scout Section
- * to increase the quality of Scouting offered to Scouts

METHOD

Plan 2001 will operate by delivering to Scouts Troops practised ideas, methods, resources and support in six key areas:-

- * Motivation
- * Image
- * International
- * Troop experience
- * Girls in the Scout Troop
- * Links

SUPPORT

- * Plan 2001 is nationally developed and supported
- * Plan 2001 fits together with Hertfordshire VITAL support (Values, Image, Training, Activity, Leadership) to form comprehensive support to the Scout Section
- * Scouting magazine is running a series of articles on Plan 2001
- * Chris King (ADC Scouts) has the detailed information which he will make available to Troops and he will be co-ordinating activities in this area.

COUNTY CANOE SLALOM A CLEAN SWEEP OF THE HONOURS

The County Canoe Slalom took place at Rickmansworth on one of the few pleasant weekends of the summer. The District was well represented by 11th Letchworth, 1st Baldock and Beech Springs VSU. After an exciting weekend's canoeing Scouts and Leaders from our District made a clean sweep of the honours. Congratulations to them all.

Results: **Scouts**

Ventures

1. Michael Hull (1st Baldock)

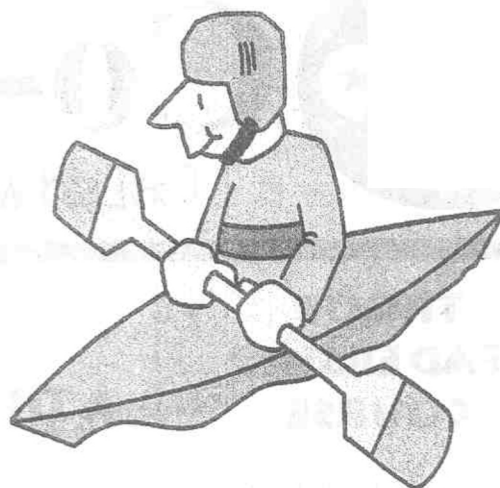
2. Nick Brown (1st Baldock)

3. Jonathan Stroud (11th Letchworth)

1. Adam Hemmings

2. David Staines

3. Tim Colley



DISTRICT SCOUT LONDON WEEKEND

Calling all Scouts over fourteen (14)

A trip is being arranged to visit London weekend of 11th - 13th September 1998. The weekend includes rail fare, accommodation at Baden Powell House and a full and fun packed programme. The approximate cost will be £75.00. To secure a place please send a deposit of £10.00 to Rita Hawkins, 1 South Close, Baldock, Herts. SG7 6DS

Tele: 01462 491228. by 10th August 1998

Only a maximum of ten places are available so please book early.



HOLIDAY PUZZLE

Which English word of four letters can be attached to the back of the words shown to create six other words?

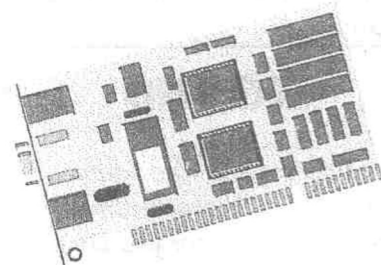
Back
Camp
Shell
Wild
Gun
Hell



SCOUT ELECTRONICS BADGE

A Leaders resource Pack has been produced by Comet Group plc, the sponsors of the Scout Electronics Badge. The pack includes a colour guide to the badge and gives help and guidance on how Scouts can complete the requirements of this badge.

The pack was launched at the recent National Scout Conference, and is available free of charge from the Scout Office at Gilwell Park (Tel: 0181 524 5246)



1ST BALDOCK (KNIGHTS)

ADVENTURE CREST AWARD

JAMES WILTSHIRE
20/05/98)

SHAUN PATEMAN
(02/06/98)

SAM MUNFORD
(02/06/98)



1ST BALDOCK CUBS TAKE TO WATER

On Friday 5th June, 1st Baldock Cubs had a trip to Letchworth Outdoor Pool as part of the wizzy water world project.

19 Cubs, along with some of their parents, brothers & sisters took to the water and had a go at their swimming badges. Despite the chilly evening, which made everything a bit harder than usual, 16 of the Cubs passed one of the stages of the badge (4 achieved stage 1, 5 achieved stage 2 and 7 achieved stage 3).



After the hard work they all had a good splash around and many goes down the slide.

Well done to all the boys, and many thanks to those parents who helped us and to the lifeguards at their post.

This event will now be followed up by an evening on water safety (possibly Baywatch style!)

Andrea Soulsbv & Deb Hoeg 1st Baldock Cubs.

DISTRICT CUB CAMP -WESTON 19th JUNE - 21st JUNE

Weston Park provided a beautiful venue for the annual Cub Camp which was attended by over 100 cubs and leaders.

The Cubs were divided into teams and the theme of the Camp was spies. At the various bases the Cubs made the equipment they required for their spying activities - thank goodness the mobile phones didn't ring! - and they learnt to write secret messages as well as writing and deciphering coded messages.



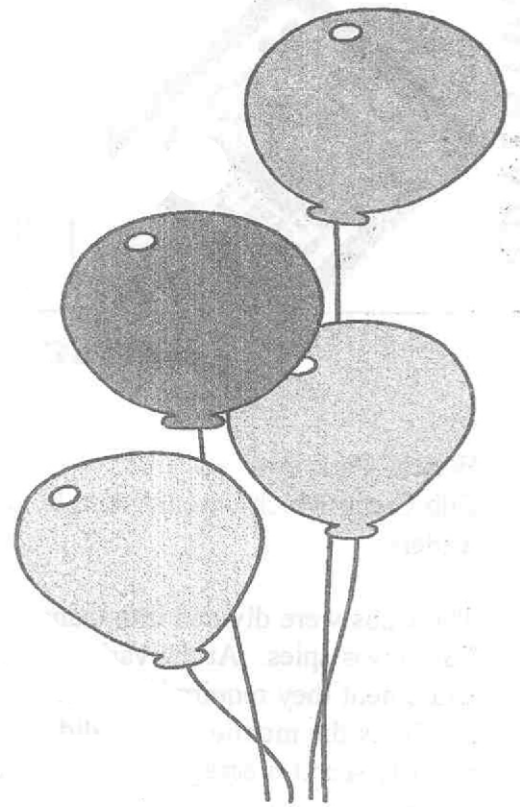
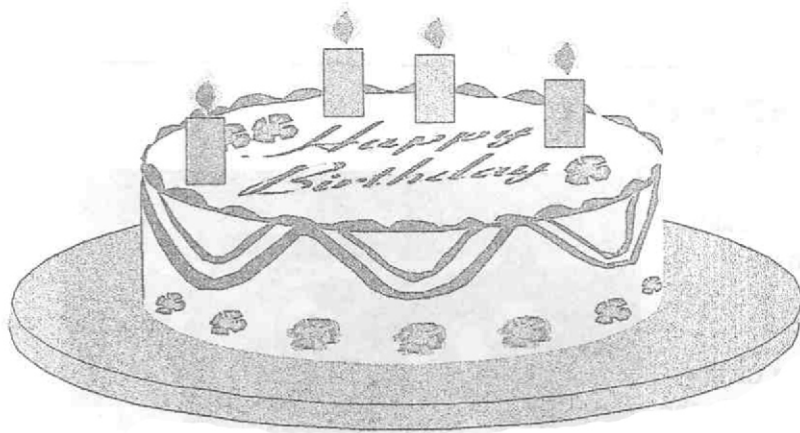
Other more adventurous activities included cooking, wide games, the climbing wall and the assault course - finishing off with a water fight

There was an "It's A Knock Out" competition which finished with a tug of war against the leaders (all leaders are warned that training will start earlier next year and anyone who is not fit enough will not be allowed in the team!).

There was a rousing camp fire and in our quieter moments we sat under the trees to sing hymns and listen to stories and prayers at a Cubs Own Service. There was a wonderful atmosphere of enjoyment and friendship throughout the weekend.

Our thanks go to all leaders and their helpers who made the weekend so successful and to Roy Nicholson and his crew at Weston who made us so welcome.

HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY
VENETIA CROWTHER
(1ST 3RD LETCHWORTH)



GRAHAM HOPKINS
(8TH LETCHWORTH)

HAPPY 30TH BIRTHDAY

BEAVER NEWS

Beavers Underground

On Tuesday 19th May, 1st Baldock Beavers Scouts were taken by some very willing parents and leaders to Phasels Wood 'potholing'. After a 3/4 hour journey and their picnic tea, Kingfisher, some older boys and parents encouraged the Beavers to go through very tiny artificial potholes, first with their torches and after a while even without them. All evening I could see little Beavers popping up like 'little rabbits' all over the area. They enjoyed this trip very much, as one of the Beavers shouted out from underground '*This is the best Beaver Trip ever*'. This sort of comment from our Beavers and the helpfulness of our parents make it fun to run all these events. Did any other Beaver Colony enjoy an activity like this? This trip cost our colony only £1.00 per boy, as we did not have any coach fare to pay.



BEAVER SUMMER ACTIVITIES

COUNTY BEAVER FUN DAY - SATURDAY 130 JUNE (Come as a Beaver - Leave as a Pirate)

Saturday 13th June - The weather forecast wasn't good but we pretended we hadn't heard it (I've been at Tolmers in the rain before). Our 13 Beavers all arrived at the coaches in good time and we took little brother Thomas with us too because we're superstitious, OK 14 boys then. The journey was uneventful the jam up getting into the car park was boring - assembling on the field ready to start was really boring, but once they said "**GO**" we had a lovely time right up until lunch.

The Beavers were happy - they made hats and eye patches and treasure chests and played a chaotic game which consisted of throwing newspaper balls at anyone. (I feel sure there were some rules but they seemed unnecessary) I was happy because I could see 13 yellow ties and brother Thomas.

Lunch time over, the predicted rain started to fall. Before long we had coats and hoods done up, soggy pirate hats, glued foil on swords that wouldn't stick and maps and flags that we couldn't colour. My sense of humour was disappearing as quickly as my 13 Beavers. In torrential rain we abandoned the camp fire plan and headed for our coach. At this stage we were simply wet, but the car park was not concrete and by the time we reached our coach our feet were covered in mud! I almost cried for the driver as he watched us climb out of the mud into his clean coach. The windows quickly steamed up with all the damp and it rained all the way home.

By the time my personal Beaver and I reached our house, I thought the whole thing had been a complete waste of time, but an hour later my beaver son leapt into our lounge waving a soggy sword and wearing a pirate hat and eye patch and holding a treasure map. "Aha" I'm a pirate and I'm looking for treasure!" he shouted. I wish you could have seen my smile!

WELL DONE TO ALL THE ORGANISERS

2nd Baldock BSL Wendy Neath

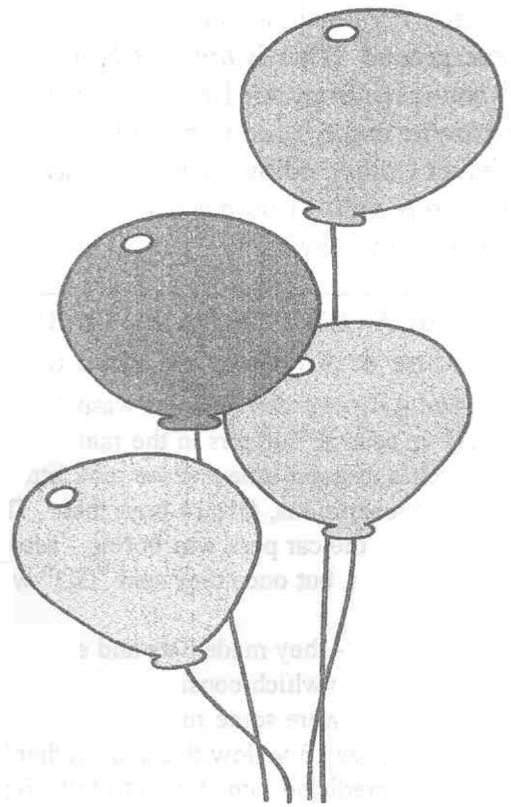
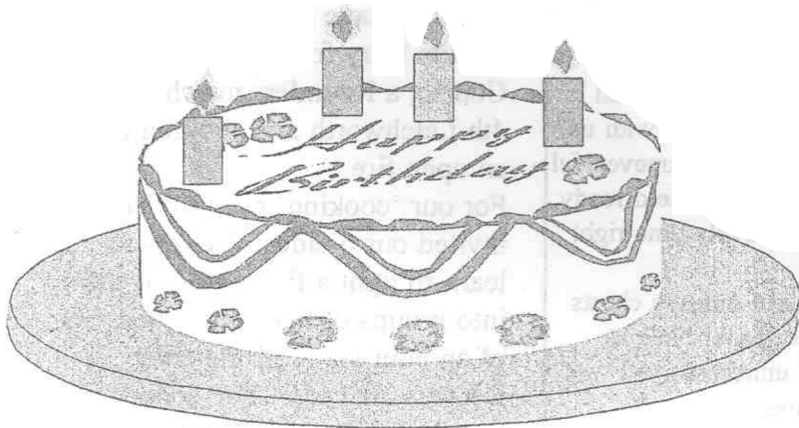
Of course you don't have to go far to enjoy yourself. In this summer term, we have already booked Norton Bury for the Assault Course, a Rounders match against 4th Letchworth and cooking over an open fire.

For our 'cooking' evening we invited our 6 eldest Beavers to learn to light a fire. We split them into groups of two. Three quarters of an hour later, all the other Beavers arrived. They cooked their own bread dough twisted round a stick. They tried to cook their 'party sausages' and bacon (most of the sausages fell into the fire), and for dessert enjoyed some marshmallows. They enjoyed this evening very much, although I didn't think much of their cooking ability as they didn't have much patience to wait for the sausages to cook, and I am sure they were pleased to have Swallow (Sonja), ABSL 1st Baldock (Tuesday)

HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY

WENDY NEATH

(2ND BALDOCK)



HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY

PETER FRANKLAND

(4TH LETCHWORTH)

EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY

During a recent series of workshops on Health and Safety issues, the question was repeatedly raised regarding the relevance or applicability of statutory Employer's Liability Insurance. It is clear that this is an area which is widely misunderstood.

Any Scout/Group/County which directly employs a person is required, by law, to arrange Employer's Liability Insurance. This applies irrespective of whether or not a formal contract of employment exists. It can include employment without direct monetary remuneration (eg. a warden who receives free accommodation).

There is no hard and fast rule. However, if it can reasonably be argued that an individual is undertaking a task for a benefit, then an employment situation will almost certainly exist and the Employer will need to arrange insurance. This applies even to an employment situation where a parent spends two hours a week cleaning the Group headquarters and gets paid a few pounds for the work.

If you believe that you may have an employer/employee relationship, contact Scout Insurance Services at Lancing or the Personnel Manager at Baden-Powell House for advice.

Laurie's Open Day

Many thanks to Laurie for another successful Open Day with a wonderful selection of super plants to adorn our gardens. What a pity the low attendance didn't match the hard work Laurie has put into raising the plants ! None the less Laurie still made over £500 which he has shared between the Scout Fellowship, the Ernest Gardiner Day Hospital and the Royal Naval Association

Laurie wishes to thank his helpers.



11 TH LETCHWORTH 20TH ANNIVERSARY

“Straight to Pixmore School at half past seven to see the second half of the investiture meeting of Eleventh Letchworth Scout Group: a fairly typical pack of Cubs, looking like the beginning of something great.”

That was the note on my diary for 4 July 1978. Having then just retired as District public relations officer, I didn't see very much more of the Eleventh, until the GSL kindly handed me an invitation to the Group's birthday party, twenty years later .

It had evidently done well.

In 1979, the Cub Scout Pack had been transplanted to its own Headquarters presented by Gavin Jones Nurseries, and on its firm roots had grown a strong Scout Troop and, most remarkably, its very own Venture Scout Unit already well established for eleven years. Not many Groups can equal that standard and Anne Lilley was rightly proud of the seed she planted as the first Cub Scout Leader two decades ago.

There was a tinge of regret that the Eleventh had not bloomed in as many colours as had been hoped for, but “like all groups, we've had our ups and downs. And there are some older lads at the back who have been in since we started and have come through from Cubs to Leaders.” And when she had cut the ceremonial birthday cake, one of those first Cubs presented his Akela with a symbolic potted plant to remember this grand occasion - as if she would ever forget it. Then he went out and joined the young ones on the bouncy castle. Eleventh Letchworth is something great KJ

NORTON BURY ACTIVITY CENTRE

WANTED

The Norton Bury Management Committee are prepared to offer a reasonable rate for the job to anyone who would be prepared to take on the regular laundering of the sheets and pillow cases. Contact Barbara Crombie on 01462 671062

"GANG SHOW"

MUSICIANS WANTED

We would like some musicians to help us with the next Gang Show - particularly trumpet and guitar. If you are fairly experienced and enjoy light music and/or jazz and feel you would like to be involved then please CONTACT: Andrea Soulsby on Baldock 491401 for further information.



WARDENS

30th June - 6th July
Dave Hawkins Tel: 491228

7th July - 13th July
Peter & Mary Deary Tel: 686859

14th July - 20th July
Ann & Ken Lilley Tel: 621271

21st July - 27th July
Ken Hart Tel: 622164

28th July - 3rd August
Elaine Wigglesworth Tel: 626218

4th August - 10th August
John Hicks Tel: 676639

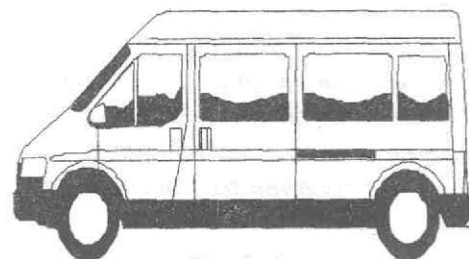
11th August - 17th August
Shaun Howard Tel: 679209

18th August - 24th August
Ruth & Peter Baker Tel: 682752

25th August - 31 August
Janet Castle Tel: 677297

MINI-BUS

DRIVER'S ASSESSMENT



It is a requirement that all drivers of County Scout minibuses should take a driving assessment.

Nick Farmer is an official assessor for the County and he will be holding an instruction and assessment course at **Norton Bury on Sunday 12th July at 10.00 a.m.**

It makes good sense in the interest of safety to take such a course so it is hoped that as many people as possible, who do not already hold a qualification, will take advantage of this opportunity.

If you are interested please contact **Nick Farmer**

7th LETCHWORTH CELEBRATE SIXTY YEARS OF SCOUTING

Congratulations to the 7th Letchworth Scout Group which celebrated its sixtieth anniversary with a BBQ at the Wilbury Hall.

A display of photographs illustrated Scouting at the 7th over the years and a large gathering of past and present members shared stories of their scouting endeavours.

Ken Hart, who has contributed so much to Scouting in the District, cut the anniversary cake and other distinguished guests included John Moys, Rod Tiplady, Colin Phillips and John and Nancy Baker.

It was also good to meet past members of the Group Executive whose service dates back to the 1960's in some cases. Pride of place goes to Mrs Ringrow, a long serving and respected treasurer, and also present were David Cox, Wendy Johnson, Joan Cave and Joan Ludford.

Thanks to Mike Durrant (a long serving Chairman) and the present Group Executive and Leaders for providing the guests with such a memorable evening.

The DC presented a bouquet of flowers to Amanda Woolmer for organising the event.

53 Hillbrow, Letchworth, Herts
SG6 3RD
Telephone: 01462 627673

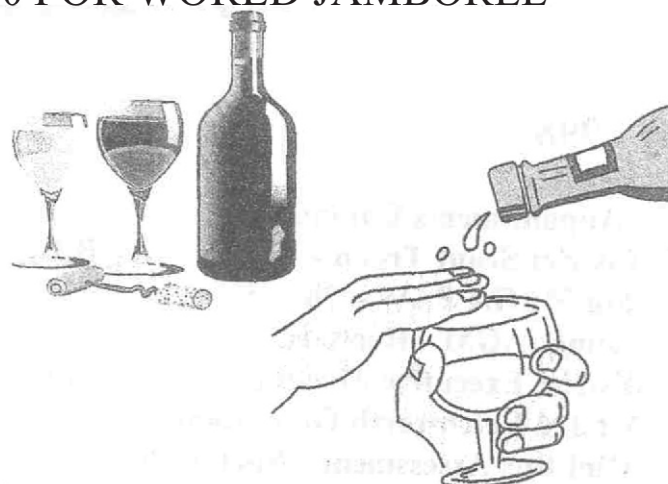
DISTRICT BBQ RAISES £350 FOR WORLD JAMBOREE

The storm clouds parted long enough to allow over 150 people to enjoy the District BBQ at Norton Bury.

There was a bouncy castle for the children together with games organised by Beech Spring VSU and plenty of food and drink to keep the adults happy.

It was good to see so many leaders, parents and adults enjoying themselves and we like to thank everyone for supporting the event.

Special thanks to Rita and her team who organised the evening.



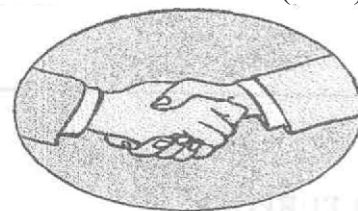
CAMP 2000

The County wishes to have an estimate of numbers for the Millennium Camp so please do not forget to complete the form which appears in the June issue of HSG

AND RETURN IT BY 15th SEPTEMBER 1998

Appointments Committee

The Appointments Committee extends a welcome to VICTORIA WALTERS (BSL)
7th Letchworth



Beech Springs VSU A.G.M. Hitchwood - Thursday 18th June

Chairperson's Speech - Since the beginning of September/October last year, we have had many new additions to our Venture Scout Unit. We have seen the development of Scouts into Venture Scouts and generally met the arrival of people 15+. We have also seen the departure of some very valued members. However, University has to kick in sometime and who are we to stop people from working. Fortunately, the Venture Scout Unit provides a refreshing alternative to all this work being done and our main objective is for everyone to have fun!.

This year we have seen 6 investitures including Paul Hoeg, Adrian Lie, Alex and Vicky Pendleton, Tamzin Pierce, David Hall, Adam Hemmings and many more have yet to be convinced and Nick Brown is going to join after receiving his Scout Award with 1st Baldock.

We have a new edition to our uniform, T-shirts slogan "Insanity and Beyond" thought of whilst at Glenn's house, also army trousers have been included.

Bubbles

DIARY DATES

July 1998

1st Appointments Committee
2nd District Scout Troop - Norton Bury BBQ
3rd - 5th MEGA PAW - Phasels Wood
6th County AGM - Hertford
9th District Executive Meeting - Norton Bury
10th 1st 3rd Letchworth Quiz Night
12th Mini Bus Assessment - Norton Bury
13th District Cub Leaders Meeting - 1 South Close
14th 2nd Weston AGM
15th District Team Meeting - Norton Bury
15th District Beavers Bangers & Bash - Norton Bury
17th 2nd Baldock AGM

September 1998

2nd Appointments Committee
3rd District Scouts - Norton Bury
4th - 6th Gilwell Reunion
7th District Cub Leaders Meeting
10th District Executive
11th - 13th Scouts London Weekend
14th District Beaver Leaders Meeting
17th District Team Meeting
24th District Scouts Leaders Meeting
26th Beavers Sports Day
27th Scouts 5-a-side Football competition
30th District Scout Troop - Norton Bury

Fellowship

OUR PURPOSE

3 Year Review Plan

The purpose of the Scout Fellowship is to provide flexible opportunities for support and service to Scouting, as well as fun, friendship and development* for members.

* development - for members of the Scout Fellowship would mainly cover areas such as skills training, preparation for Form M's etc., so that they can more effectively support the 6 - 20 Training Programme and the adults leading the sections.

OUR MOTTO - Providing Active Support

OUR MAIN ROLE - The Scout Fellowship is open to all adults in Scouting

One of our main objectives should be that people are actively encouraged to join the Scout Fellowship whenever their Scouting lives change, and as an aid for leader retention

3 YEAR PLAN

In all that they do in 3 year review, we must bear in mind our revised purpose, motto and main role, as well as the National Strategic Plan with its emphasis on the Group, camping and outdoor activities, International and community development.

Distributed by:

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council

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