

Co-ordinator

Queen Scout Award



Nick Brown (Gumby) of the Beech Springs Venture Scout Unit has become the first Venture Scout in the District to achieve the prestigious Queen Scout Award this millennium.

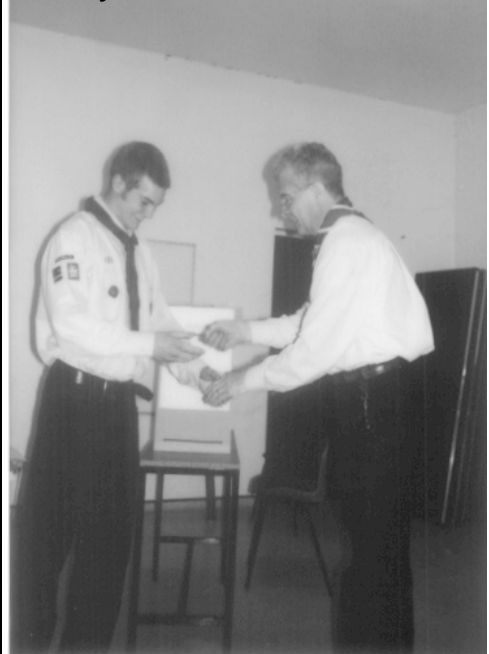
To achieve this award Nick had to undertake activities agreed by the Unit Executive Committee in the following sections.

Community, Leadership, Pursuit or Interest and Exploration. One element was a cycle expedition from Rome to Baldock along with his fellow Venture Scout and friend Adrian Lai. Nick and Adrian gave a presentation, held at the 1st Baldock Headquarters, on their adventurous expedition through Italy, Switzerland, Germany and Holland. They completed the 2000 kilometres journey in twenty one days.

After the presentation, Roger Sands, County Commissioner presented Nick with his Queen Scout Award.

Nick as the opportunity to attend the St George's Day Parade at Windsor Castle next year with other members of the Scouting Movement who have achieved this prestigious award.

Nick Brown receiving his Queen's Scout Award from Roger Sands, County Commissioner



**Sue Anstey
1957- 2001**

Sue joined 1st Ashwell Scout Group as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader in 1998. Everybody that came in contact with Sue will remember her for her enthusiasm, dedication and commitment to Scouting. If you wanted a job well done then Sue was your woman. During her short time with 1st Ashwell she helped Nick to keep the Cub Scout records up to date and took over the administration of the weekly meetings, camps and events. During her illness Sue never lost interest in the Scout Movement and regularly received letters, pictures and reports from Nick Jewell, Cub Leader and the 1st Ashwell Cubs on their activities. Sue never lost her sense of humour and made sure that Nick kept the Cub "Bag" in good order.

Goodnight Sue.

The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

The Night Hike

It all started when I was sitting on a concrete bow outside the church hall with Scott, Rogan and my sisters while we were waiting for the Cubs to finish in the hall. As soon as they were finished Peter Frankland - 'Boss' told us to put all our kit into the hall and get into a circle to take the register, check everyone's forms and to see if we all had suitable footwear.

From 8.30 pm until 9.30 on we waited in the queue for the toilet. We then got into pairs, my partner was Scott, we then waited for the adult to lock the hall up and we then set off.

We walked from the hall to the Train Station and Scott, Rogan, David May and I were all talking to each other, Finally we were at the train station; we scared the guards because there were twenty five of us and only four of them.

While we were waiting for the train, the Scouts were eating and drinking, I pulled some sandwiches from inside my bag and where I had been slamming my bag down, they had got squashed and looked really ranky !

We didn't have long to wait for the train surprisingly. We all got onto the train. David read out a sign saying "PLEASE GIVE THIS SEAT UP IF AN ELDERLY PERSON NEEDS IT" I said that Boss was already sitting down so it didn't apply to him (I hope he didn't hear me!).

When we got off the train we had to walk up quite a lot of steps and through the train station. Then we had to walk over a bridge and through a tunnel and we saw people going out partying and a young lady who I think was already pretty drunk said "Big it up for the Scouts" we then had to walk down the Gordon Craig Theatre steps and we saw more drunk people., Boss told us to ignore them in case they took the mickey out of us for being Scouts but they didn't. . Then we went past Tesco's and up the stairs onto a bridge.

Whoever was reading the map made a wrong turning because there was houses around and there should not have been, Boss told us to keep quite so me, Scott, David and Rogan tired to but David and Scott were running on the grass and David tripped over then so did Scott. We cracked up with laughter and we were singing quietly and when we got pass the houses we sang and spoke louder.

It was time to have a rest and we made a plan to scare someone through the graveyard, we picked on my sister Georgina. As we walked past some gravestones I scared Georgina by saying in a funny voice "I want your brains", she went crying to Gofer and two boys jumped out from behind a gravestone which scared her even more ! We walked through an alley and were singing songs and joking around but whoever was reading the map made another wrong turn.

We were in a field; we lost Rogan so there was only the three of us and the people in font of us were shinning their torches in our eyes, which made us a bit annoyed. I tripped over and I think my hand landed in a 'cow pat'.

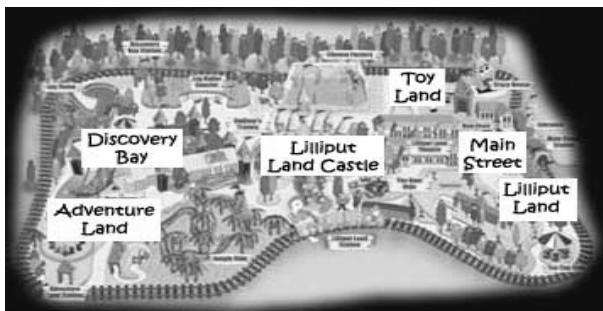
We got to a Strawberry field and whoever was reading the map made another wrong turn. We had to walk through an alley and down some steps in the dark, then quickly cross a main road. We saw the lights from the people with our refreshments under a bridge so we walked faster . Me, Scott and Rogan climbed up the slope under the bridge and when we were told to get down we slid down on our shoes, but my shoes slipped in front of me and I landed on my "butt". When we were all sitting down we all sang Happy Birthday to David. Then I burnt my tongue on my soup so I got some water to cool it down. I spilt my soup and pretended to throw up and my sister Georgina believed me. We said thank you and goodbye to the refreshment people. We were walking once more when Boss blew his whistle form behind us and told us that again we were going the wrong way.

We walked through another field and got even muddier and David tripped over once again. We were near to Willian and we were talking about fishing and what fish David had caught in the past. We went through a gate (remembering to close it behind us) into a cow field. We were nearly home (well not home, the hall). Gofer told us to keep going as were nearly there. As I saw the full moon I howled loudly to scare my sister and Gofer thought it was David.

Finally we reached the hall, we all had drinks, went to the toilet and went to our rooms. After a while I fell asleep. In the morning we packed all out stuff away and had a pillow fight.

I had a great time and lots of fun and I can't wait to do something like that again.

Annette Lee - 4th Letchworth Scout



Gullivers Land We met at the

Catholic Church car park and got on a coach and then went to Letchworth to meet up with the other Beavers who were coming. When we got to Gullivers Land we had to get into groups. A was in a group with my daddy and two Beavers called Joe and Michael. At Gullivers Land we went on the Buccaneer, Log Roller Coaster,

Gullivers Boots, Jungle Ride, Jeep Safari, Tree Tops. Flying Carpet, Cheese Factory, Tea Cup Ride, Horses Carousel, Gullivers Gift Shop, Dodgems, Crazy Golf, Toy Land Soft Play. I Loved Gullivers Land except the Buccaneer which scared me.

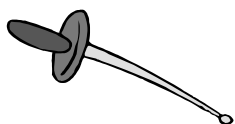
Thank you to the Leaders for such brilliant Beaver days !

Megan Soulsby
1st Baldock Beavers

Gullivers Land

The best bit about Gullivers Land is that I got to go on the Roller Coaster and I got to go on it two times.

I got to go on the water ride two times and I made myself very wet at the end. At the Krazy Golf I got a hole in one. I liked the cheese factory the best also the Roller Coaster as well and I got to buy two swords and a ring for my sister and they looked like this.



My favourite ride is the ship and it goes up and down and it goes really high and low on it and I went on everything.

Michael
1st Baldock Beavers

Beaver Sleep Over 7th & 12th Letchworth

7th Letchworth Beaver Colony & 12th Letchworth Beaver Colony joined together to hold the first Beaver Sleep Over in the District at Norton Bury.

The Beavers arrived on Friday night and stayed until Saturday lunchtime.

Fifteen Beavers enjoyed a torch light treasure hunt, face painting, making rockets and lots of games as well as a bedtime story.

12th Letchworth Scouts and Ian Hunt, Scout Leader arrived early Saturday morning to make them breakfast. Which I understand was enjoyed by all.

Well done to all that organised and took part in the event, especially the Beavers who behaved so well.

7th Letchworth Beavers at Sleep



7th Letchworth Cubs and Scouts at Phasels Wood



Scouts

Have spent the weekend as guests of Phil and Ruth Bodsworth's First Rodings Scout Troop at Cheshunt Herts Young Mariners Base. Boy was it a damp one. Did I say damp?

We were due to do canoeing, climbing, caving and lots of sailing. Took Neil Breeze and my new parent-helper Terry Patterson. Arrived 10 o'clock Saturday morning, got quickly settled in, cup of tea and chat and sent my five Scouts to join Ian, Phil's son at the climbing wall. It was drizzling. Finished tea and joined my lot. It was raining. We'd got kitted up, started climbing and it was chucking it down. Then thundering and lightning. The wall was made of metal and covered in plastic and concrete. We abandoned the climbing. Soaked through and hadn't even been in the water.

We then tried the caving. An excellent facility, strongly recommended. Pales Phasels pipes into silliness. Cave paintings, fossils embedded in the walls, an underground stream, stalactites, narrow bits, walking bits, tight bits. Really good stuff.

When we came out it wasn't raining, yet. But it was always threatening. Couldn't really do much with the threat of weather. Phil shot us around to his local school where he works and we watched the footy in the Gym. Played basketball. The sun shone gloriously, well it would wouldn't it? Did an excellent climb when we got back. Had dinner. Went into Enfield to the cinema. Didn't get in, went bowling, didn't get in. But we'd walked miles and tired the kids out anyway. Had Macyd's on way back.

Spent Sunday morning sailing. All my lot got their Stage 1 sailing certificate, and elementary helmsman badge. Excellent stuff. Neil and Terry did a lot of sailing as well, Terry for the first time (got to keep him enthusiastic!) And it rained. And they got wet from capsizing anyway.

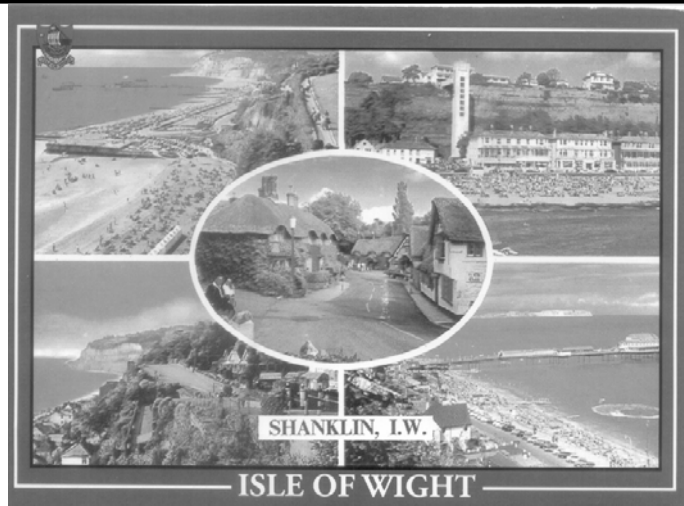
After lunch managed to get dry tents down. Finished off the sailing and it started raining again. Said goodbye to Phil and Ruth at 4 o'clock Sunday evening. It chucked it down, real squall. Promised to meet up again, perhaps we'll invite their lot somewhere. Somewhere dry though!

I don't know where they have got the idea from but I happily went along with it.. even encouraged them...they are fully expecting Friday night's Lochearnhead reunion to be fancy dress and are enthusiastically coming as Henry V111 and Nell Gwynn (complete with cleavage and oranges) apparently they love dressing up...

Dave Strong
7th Letchworth SL

NSRA &GNAS Instructors Courses

Please refer to last months Co-Ordinator for details of Rifle Shooting and Archery Instructors Courses.



To The News Letter Co-ordinator

I am having a lovely time on my holiday.
I have been to a Butterfly Farm and a
Dinosaur Museum. I have also met a
Beaver Cub Scout in the hotel,.

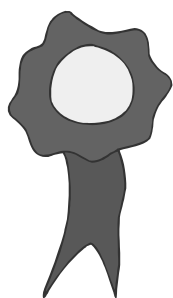
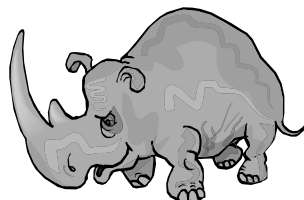
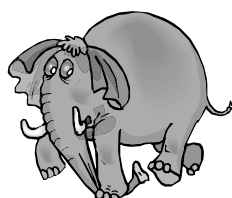
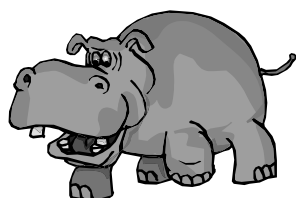
From Christopher Reynolds
5th Letchworth



Cubs on Safari

On Sunday 7th October the District Cubs once again went on safari to The Woburn Wildlife Animal Kingdom. One hundred and sixty six Cubs, Leaders and adults enjoyed a day of fun and adventure. In true tradition of the new ADC (Cubs), Deb Dilley it rained. It never happened when Dave was in charge. However, everybody had a thoroughly enjoyable time seeing the animals and enjoying the adventure playground and rides.

Well done to Deb and the Cub Leaders for organising another excellent Cub event and we look forward to many more.



On Beavers Sports Day it rained a lot but we had lots of races. I did the water race, the sack race, egg and spoon race, a relay race and a running race. I got stickers for two 2nd places and a 3rd place in the races. It was good fun and 1st Baldock Beavers came third.

Megan Soulsby
1st Baldock Beavers



Beaver Sports Day

Well Deb, it rained, you said it would, but it didn't spoil the fun. Vicky Luker had worked very hard to organise our annual Beaver Sports Day as part of her adult training, well done Vicky, I think you did brilliantly. The obstacle race started the afternoon, what a laugh. If we had the time it would have been good to see the Leaders have a go, maybe next year?

The sports day was well supported, with all of our colonies taking part and plenty of parents to cheer on the hardy competitors, even though they had to dash for cover every now and again.

Thank you to everybody who helped to make the afternoon so successful, Vicky for organising it, the Fellowship for running the raffle and refreshments, and a generous donation to Beaver funds thank you. Beach Springs Venture Unit, Venture Scouts Rachael, Wayne and Stuart, the DOE helpers Simon & Jonathan who worked so hard behind the scenes and to all the leaders and helpers who helped **set up and break down**.

Well who won?

Well done 7th Letchworth, I look forward to seeing you defend your title next year.

Maggie Miller - ADC (Beavers)



Lochearnhead Scarf

It is good to see so many Scouts still wearing their Lochearnhead Scarf and prolonging the happy memories of our visit to Scotland .

However, may I remind you, that you should return to wearing your Group Scarf after Christmas and keep your tartan Lochearnhead scarf as a treasured memento of the expedition.

There are many members in the District who are still proud of the scarf they bought during a visit in the 1970's.

The Ken Hart Memorial Fund

Small grants are available from this fund to help Groups or individuals visiting Norton Bury or participating in other official Scouting and Guiding events.

Enquiries should be made in the first instance to Bob Williams, Chairman Norton Bury Management Committee

53 Hawthorn Hill, Letchworth, Hertfordshire SG6 4HQ

01462 686727

District Skills/Training Day

Over twenty Leaders and helpers from all sections and groups enjoyed a Sunday at Boyd Field, Henlow. During the day the Leaders were able to take part in various adventurous activities which included archery, rifle shooting and the climbing wall. Also during the day Nick Farmer, County mini bus assessor was able to assess any Leader who wanted to take their mini bus assessment test. A number of Leaders took advantage of this.

After a lunch prepared and cooked by Deborah Hoeg, District Scout Fellowship and Andrea Soulsby the afternoon was taken up by a group discussion of topics including :

Leaders children within Sections
Girls in Scouting
Concerns over PRI

There was then an opportunity to practise mapping and compass skills and knotting as well as a informal chat.

Thank you to Andrea for organising and running the day, to Deborah for making endless cups of tea and coffee, and cooking lunch, to Nick for running the mini bus assessments and to all the participants for giving up their Sunday Hope to see you all next year together with some new faces.

Dave Hawkins—DC

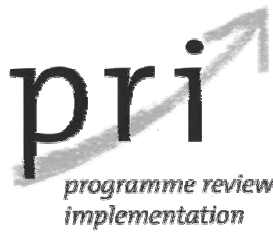
Looking Beyond 2002—Two Major District Events

Due to the very successful expedition to the Lochearnhead Scout Station this summer . A number of Leaders as well as Scouts have asked if the District will organise another expedition. The District can now confirm that the Station has been booked for the **first two weeks of the school holidays in August 2005.**



To celebrate the centenary of the Letchworth Garden City and the opening of the new activity centre near Wymondley the District are proposing to hold a Jamboree over the **Witsun weekend 23 - 26 May 2003.** It is hoped that all Groups will attend.





During the District Skills Day at Henlow, one of the discussion topics brought up was "Concerns you may have regarding PRI". An interesting discussion followed, during which I hope everyone was given a chance to voice their concerns.

The main points that came out of the discussion were :-

What is the District Strategy on Explorer Units?

Is there a greater chance of losing more Scouts through the introduction of a new section?

Potential costs of new material (publications) required to support the new programme on top of the costs of new uniform?

Will there be any funding available for the purchase of the new publications?

Which section will feel the greatest impact of the changes?

I hope that we were able to answer some of these concerns, however much of the above will remain unanswered until after the regional launch in February 2002.

It was stressed that you are not expected to change over to the new programme straight away, that the current programme can justifiably run through till the end of December 2003. Obviously sometime during the next two years it would be advantageous to change over to the new programme, but do it when you are comfortable about it and understand the new programme. I would envisage that during next year we would be able to hold some training sessions within the District for each section to talk through the new programme and discuss any areas that leaders may have concerns/difficulties with. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact me and I will endeavour to find an answer for you.

Please remember the most important point is that this is not to be a radical change that happens overnight – there is a two year change-over period – we have until 31 December 2003 to changeover to the new way of working.

Any questions/queries that you may have about any aspect of PRI then please contact me either by phone (01462-643992), snail mail (32 The Rowans, Baldock) or E-Mail (a.soulsby@ntlworld.com)

Andrea Soulsby

PRI Change Agent for Letchworth & Baldock District

Gang Show 2002

Rehearsals will commence on Saturday 3rd November at 1st/3rd Letchworth Scout HQ from 4:30 pm till 6:30 pm for the first week. Subsequent weeks will be 4:30 pm-6 pm for the Cubs/Brownies and 6 pm - 7:30 pm for Scouts/Venture Scouts/Guides and Adults

We would like some extra help at rehearsals this year – if you would be willing to come along for a few rehearsals to keep an eye on the children during the rehearsal then please let Andrea or Dave know. There will be no pressure put upon you to take part in the show, unless you want to.

Further information can be obtained from either Andrea Soulsby (643992) or Dave Strong (624309)

New Scout Group Resources

All Group Scout Leaders / Group Contacts should have received from Roger Starr—National Commissioner for Programme the following information: -

English Heritage Poster designed for the Scout Section

Fox 40 Whistles Poster - Fox 40, sponsors of the Scout Survival Badge

Legoland exclusive weekend for Beaver and Cub Scouts— 24/25 November, Legoland is opening exclusively to Beaver and Cub Scouts.

District Neckerchief

The District now have an District neckerchief which will be worn by members of the District Team.

The neckerchief is white with a yellow and green border in keeping with the District Badge.



Due to the decision to allow all Scout Fellowship members to individually opt-in to membership of the International Scout and Guide Fellowship (ISGF), rather than automatically assume membership for all members, members are no longer automatically entitled to use the ISGF badge or logo.

Based upon feedback from the 2000 uniform consultation, The Committee of the Council agreed to the wish of the membership to continue to be allowed to wear a distinctive Scout Fellowship badge.

During 2001 a process was undertaken to design a new Scout Fellowship uniform badge, neckerchief and logo. Members were invited to submit initial designs, the best ones of which were then distributed to Regional Representatives for comment by a number of Scout Fellowships.

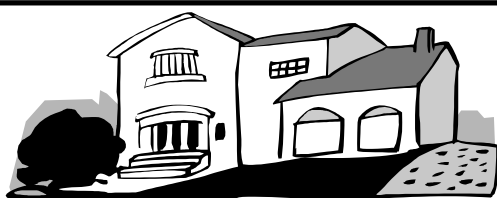
Following a review of the feedback received from the consultation process, proposals were made to the sub-branding group, responsible for ensuring that all matters of 'identity' enhance the new corporate image of the Scout Association. Final consultation with the membership was held at the National Gathering at Walesby in July, and the new logo, badge and neckerchief were launched on 10th September at the Gilwell Reunion.

Effective from 10th September 2001, Scout Fellowship members should no longer wear any old Scout Fellowship badge or neckerchief bearing the ISGF logo.

The new neckerchief costs £6.00 and is available from all branches of 'Outdoors', or directly from Scout Shops Ltd at Lancing

The new badge costs 85p, including a 15p donation to The Scout Holiday Homes Trust. Local District Secretaries can order batches from Scout Shops Ltd.

Norton Bury - Wardens

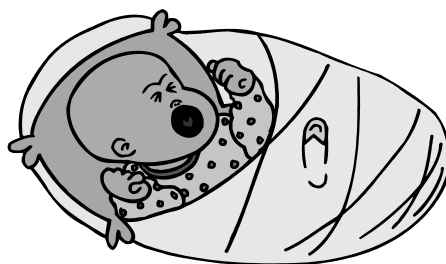


NOVEMBER

6 Sheila & David Dawes 01462 621699
 13 John Moys 01462 487847
 20 Julia Pollard 01462 686190
 27 TBA

DECEMBER

4 Michael Wright



Congratulations

Congratulations to James Standen, 12th Letchworth CSL on the birth on his daughter. How long will it be before her name is on the waiting list for Beavers?

Congratulations to the following leaders who have completed training recently:-

TOPS Community Sports Training –	Chris Lewis	– 1 st /3 rd Letchworth Scouts
	Sue Lovelock	– 5 th Letchworth Cubs
	Caroline Nicholson	– 12 th Letchworth Beavers
	Diana Marshall	– 2 nd Baldock Cubs
	Mandy Woolmer	– 7 th Letchworth Cubs
	Mark Hunt	– 7 th Letchworth Beavers
	Deb Dilley	– ADC (Cubs)
	Sheila Tickner	– 8 th Letchworth GSL
	Fiona Potts	– 1 st Baldock (Knights) Cubs
	Paula Dilley	– Beech Springs VSU
	Nick Phillips	– 8 th Letchworth Cubs
	Dave Hawkins	– DC
	Pete Frankland	– 4 th Letchworth Scouts
	Andrea Soulsby	– ADC (AT)
	Stephanie Marshall	– 2nd Baldock Cubs

National Mountain Bike Leadership Awards

For anyone interested in gaining an award for Mountain Bike Leadership then please view the following website : www.mountainbikecourses.com, then:

For Leader courses, awards and qualifications, including low level, general, technical and mountainous terrain click on 'Leader Awards'

For Skill Awards, click on 'Skill Awards'

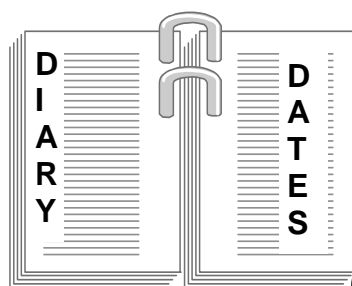
For supporting courses, such as personal training and development in maintenance, riding skills or mountain bike navigation, click on 'Supporting Courses'

For information on the program of all courses, click on 'Program'

For up to date news on all areas of mountain biking, leading, qualification and foot and mouth access, click onto 'News'

If you do not have access to the internet and are interested in Mountain Biking then please contact me and I will print off the relevant pages from the website for you.

Andrea Soulsby – tel: 643992



20012001

DECEMBER

13	District Executive Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
17	District Team Meeting	Orange Tree	8.00 pm

JANUARY 2002

10	District Executive	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
21	District Beaver Leaders' Meeting	2nd Baldock HQ	
27	District Scout Cooking Competition	1st Baldock	

FEBRUARY

6	Ascension to the throne—Queen Elizabeth II		
14	District Executive Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
16	Regional Launch PRI		
28	5th Letchworth 45th Anniversary		

MARCH

1 - 3	Peak Assault	TBA	
10	County Scout Cooking Competition		
11	Commonwealth Day		
14	District Executive	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
15 - 16	District Gang Show	Plinston Hall	
16	County Cub Swimming		
16	District Beaver Challenge		
17	St Patrick's Day		

APRIL

13/14

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