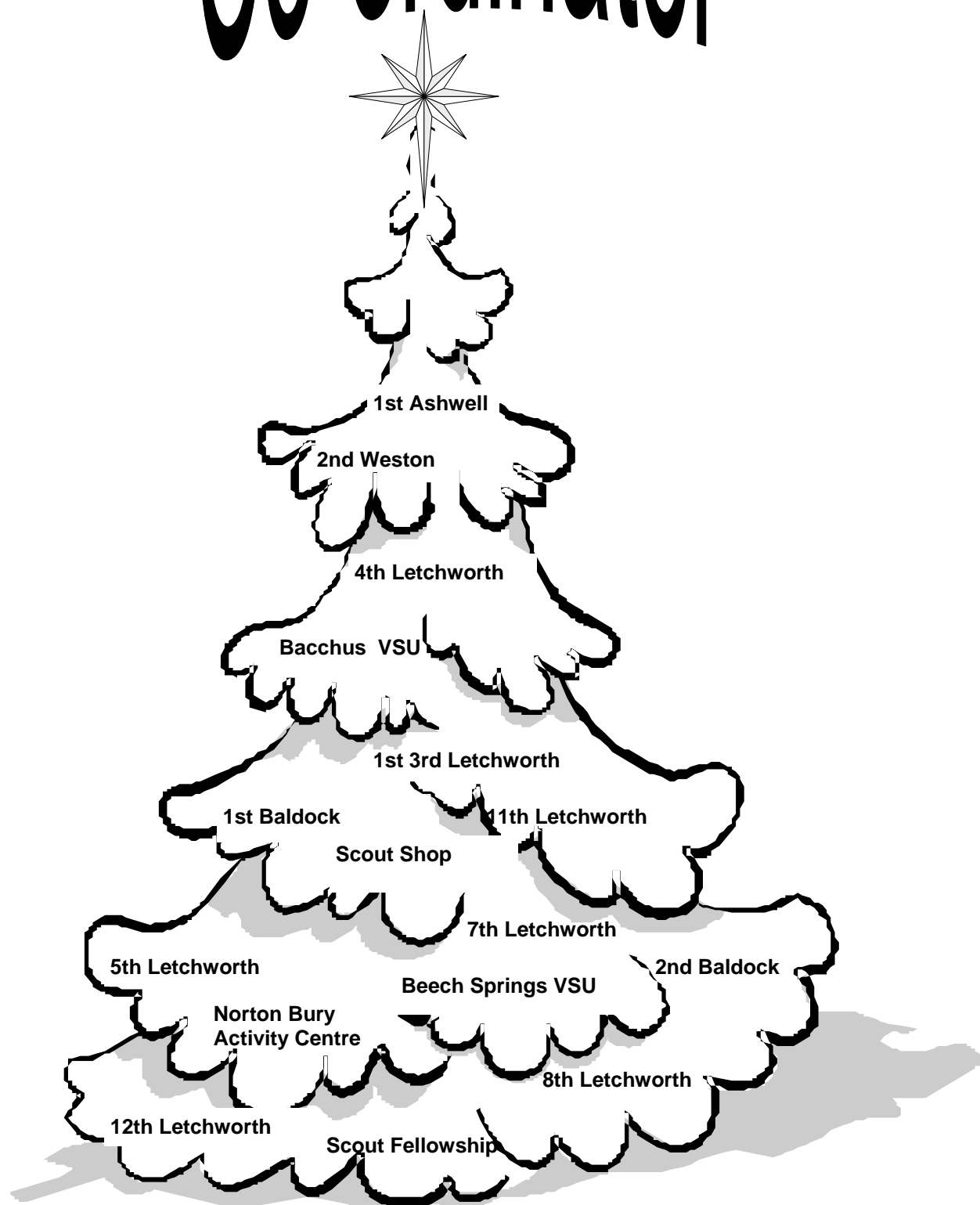


Co-ordinator



The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin

News from The Scout Association Head Quarters

Special Offer—Baden-Powell House

Want to get away but not sure where to spend the time ? - well, how's this for an offer you cannot refuse ?

Bring a group of 10 or more Scouts to Baden/Powell House and we will offer you the following unbeatable prices:

£10.00 per child per night including a full English Breakfast

£15.00 per adult per night including a full English Breakfast.

Special offer from 3 - 31 January 2002

For more information on the above please call the Reservations Department on

Tele: 020 7590 6900

Fax: 020 7590 6902

E-mail bph.hostel@scout.org.uk

Cub Scout and Beaver Scout Annuals 2002

The Cub Scout Annual 2002 and ***The Beaver Scout Annual 2002*** are now on sale. Retail for £5.99

The annuals contain a mix of cartoons, puzzles and features, plus two special 'Digimon' stories apiece.

Competitions this year have been sponsored by Madame Tussauds with prizes of a trip to the famous wax work museum or The London Planetarium for a Pack and Colony.

The annuals are on sale in most good bookshops—they are also being offered in Sainsbury's superstores with a £2.00 discount.



Information Technology - Badge Course

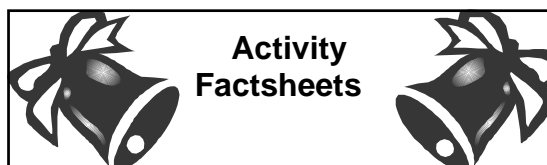
Over the weekend of 22 –24 February 2002, Gilwell Park Campsite will be running a residential course for Scouts covering the Scout Radio Communicator Badge.

Priced at £25 each including food, accommodation and activities, this residential course is suitable for unaccompanied Scouts, whether individuals or small groups.

During the course Scouts will be able to cover all aspects of the Information Technology Badge and on satisfactory completion, the badge will be awarded.

For more information and an application form, contact the Gilwell Park Campsite on:

020 8498 5411



New or updated since February

New

FS120421 Single Rope Technique (SRT)

FS120623 Class C Waters

FS120708 Hovercrafting

Updated

FS120006 Aerial Runway Code

FS120620 Swimming

BR120151 National Directory of Waters

Troop Evening - 7th Letchworth

I organised a first aid evening tonight, with a difference.

Five bases, each base being an incident which required medical attention. Each base manned by an adult helper.

Caroline was in the hall with concussion. Out for the count, she was. Hope it was a restful evening for her, but I somehow doubt it... being pushed and pulled into a proper recovery position, having her airways and breathing checked. Jane was heavily bandaged... had broken her arm. Bit of bone sticking out too, bit gory with the fake blood. But she happily went home still bandaged... but then perhaps the last lot did it so well it wouldn't come off... I'm not sure. I ended up in the kitchen with severe arm burns. Still got them on whilst I'm typing this... shall I leave them to show off at work tomorrow or wash them off? The make up I got this lunchtime was fun. Applied a wound to each of my Scouts whilst I talked about water, and cling film and keeping burns away from dirt to avoid infections. Gary my Red Cross man gave us all his advice and circulated around the bases. Mike Miles was involved in a car accident. Severe injuries he had. But all we could really do was make sure the scene of the accident was safe. He'd be alright.

Did they learn anything? Maybe. Let's hope we never have to find out.

Many thanks to all involved.

Dave Strong—7th Letchworth SL



Gulliver's Land

On the 13 October we and a lot of other Beaver Colonies went to Gulliver's Land in Milton Keynes. I was with Edward's dad and Edward. First we went into the main square. When the main rides were open we went to have a go on the Mon Buggies and lots of other rides too. After lunch we went to pan for gold. After that we went on the Log Flume and the Log Roller Coaster. Then back on the coach to Letchworth

Matthew Leach
4th Letchworth Beaver

Remembrance Day Service

The District was well represented at the Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial. There was a large contingent from 1st 3rd Letchworth, 5th Letchworth, 7th Letchworth, 11th Letchworth and the Scout Fellowship. District and Group flags were prominent in the Parade and everyone was dressed smartly in uniform.

Perhaps this year it all became more meaningful to the younger Scouts as a result of September 11 and its aftermath. It is always good to see the Scouts there remembering those who made such a sacrifice on their behalf.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all the Groups that have contributed photos, articles, and news items throughout the year. Please keep up the good work and to those Groups that haven't had a mention recently let's hear what you are up to in the new year.

Rita Hawkins - Editor



A is for Armenia, where a popular Christmas tradition is for people to climb on to the roof of a neighbour's house and lower a basket filled with sweets and home-made gifts.

C is for cross. Christian homes in Bethlehem have a large one painted on their door during the holiday period.

E is for endurance test facing Ethiopians on Christmas Day. They carry candles three times around a church and then stand for Mass, which can last for three hours.

G is for Guatemala, where religious statues are paraded through the streets. A white bearded God, bearing a curious resemblance to a department store Santa, brings up the rear.

B is for Babushka, the old woman who distributes presents to Russia children. Legend has it she turned away the Magi and now wanders the countryside in search of the baby Jesus

D is for Dun Che Lao Ren, Chinese for 'Christmas Old Man' or Father Christmas

F is for fasting. Some Italians eat nothing for the 24 hours before Christmas, and in Egypt Christians give up meat, poultry and dairy products for the whole of Advent.

H is for Hawaii, where the start of Christmas is heralded by the arrival of the Christmas Tree Ship laden with festive fare.

I is for Iraq where bonfires are lit to celebrate the festive season. Once the bonfires die down, revellers jump into the ashes and makes a Christmas wish.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
 ☆ **May the eagerness of the shepherds** ☆
 ☆ **the joy of the angels,** ☆
 ☆ **the perseverance of the wise men,** ☆
 ☆ **the obedience of Joseph and Mary,** ☆
 ☆ **and the peace of the Christ-child** ☆
 ☆ **be yours this Christmas.** ☆
 ☆ **and the blessing of God almighty,** ☆
 ☆ **the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,** ☆
 ☆ ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

J is for Juul Nisse, the Danish name for Santa's little helpers. Children leave out saucers of milk or rice pudding for them .

K is for Killantzaroi, the name given to the Greek goblins that appear during the 12-day period from Christmas to the Epiphany.

L is for the lifeboats in which Santa often makes his appearance on Australia's beaches.

M is for Marillwyd, the Welsh name for people who accompany carol singers, draped in white robes and carrying horses skulls on long poles.

N is for Nativity scene. This popular Christmas decoration originated in the Italian village of Greccio.

O is for the ox which, decked in holly and ribbons is paraded round the streets of New Orleans.

P is for Posadas, the Mexican word for inns, which is used to describe nine days from 16—24 December of lively parties.

Q is for quince jam, one of the 13 Christmas desserts in the Provence region of France, where a pudding is eaten for Jesus and each of the 12 apostles.

R is for roller-skates. It is customary for Venezuelans to roller-skate to the daily morning Mass between 16 - 24 December.

S is for Spain. Children leave their shoes on the windowsills and fill them with straw, carrots and barley for the horses of the Wise Men

T is for the Three Wise Men, who are thought to have come from Iran. It is believed that the Magi travel through the country every year re-enacting their journey to Bethlehem.

U is for the USA, where, in remote parts of the south, firearms are shot to greet distant neighbours on Christmas Day

V is for Vietnam where the main dish of the traditional Christmas dinner is Chicken Soup and in Portugal it's salted cod with boiled potatoes.

W is for whitewash which is applied to stones and tree trunks in preparation for Christmas in Jamaica. It is perhaps originally intended to represent a blanket of snow

X is for the xylophones played by Filipino strolling minstrels, who end their seasonal performance by singing Maligayang Paski (Merry Christmas) to the tune of Happy Birthday

Y is for the Yule Cat, the terrible beast rumoured to eat all those poor Icelanders who do not receive a new piece of clothing as a Christmas present.

Z is for Zalig Kerstfeest: Dutch for Merry Christmas.

Green Beret

Over 100 teams of Scouts were put through their paces at Tolmers Scout Activity Centre over the weekend of 16 - 18 November.

The District was represented by a team of Scouts from 2nd Baldock, Eamon Brennan, Robert Corr, Marcus Fryer, Jason Domagala, Michael Cambourne-Paynter and Emma Gwilt.

Around 500 Scouts pitched camp on the Friday night and then spent the weekend completing challenges from first light to 11.00 pm in the evening. Challenges included

- A large assault course
- A woodland orienteering exercise
- Daylight exercises
- A night exercise

“ Each year competitors put their heart and souls into getting exhausted, wet and covered from head to foot in mud—and it remains our most popular competition!” said County Scouter, Ian Greaves.

The competition fosters teamwork, friendship, fun and dedication.

It would be good to see more District participants next year - so book November 2002 in your diary now !

Scout Quiz 23 November 2001

CKENHERCFIE
TTRISIDIC ORENSMCISIOM

Can you unscramble these letters to find two terms common in Scouting ?

(answer page 10)

This was just one of the challenges facing the eight teams of Scouts at our annual quiz. In other rounds they had to recognise famous personalities and show off their knowledge of music, science, history and geography, sport and current affairs.

How about this one? Which is the third nearest planet to the Sun ? Or this one Name the first two climbers to conquer Everest.

Once again 4th Letchworth proved themselves to be “masterminds” of the District with their teams taking the first three places. Well done to those other participants for keeping up the challenge.

Thanks to Lorraine for being quiz master, 4th Letchworth for organising the quiz and 7th Letchworth for hosting the evening.

Cub Quiz 16 November 2001

The District Cub Quiz took place at 5th Letchworth HQ. Nine packs entered this year's competition. Last year's winners - 7th Letchworth set the questions and organised the event.

The rounds covered General Knowledge, Scouting and a team round. After some keen competition the eventual winners were 2nd Weston followed by joint runners-up 4th Letchworth and 7th Letchworth.

Thank you to all the Cubs who took part. To the leaders who helped with the scoring and to Jeremy Croxford and Amanda Woolmer for setting the questions and for Carolyn Nunnington for serving the refreshments.

We look forward to next year's competition which will be organised by the winners - 2nd Weston.

1st	2nd Weston
2nd	7th Letchworth
2nd	4th Letchworth
4th	8th Letchworth
5th	12th Letchworth
6th	2nd Baldock
7th	1st Baldock (Templars)
8th	1st 3rd Letchworth
9th	1st Baldock (Knights)

Arts & Crafts Competition

The Arts and Crafts competition illustrated, once again, the wealth of talent that we have in the District both amongst Scouts and Adult Helpers. The judges faced a very difficult task as they viewed an assembly hall and dining room full of exhibits.

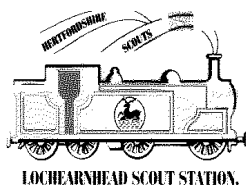
The competition covered a whole range of crafts including painting and drawing, collage, photography, model making, sewing and many classes of cookery. As well as individual classes there were opportunities for colonies, packs and troops to submit team entries.

Entries were of a high standard and our congratulations go to 4th Letchworth who won the Group Trophy and to Fiona Potts, CSL 1st Baldock, for adding a new name to the adult shield.

Arts & Craft 2001		1st	2nd	3rd
Fellowship Trophy	Beaver Scouts	1st Baldock	4th Letchworth	2nd Baldock
Blaxland Trophy	Cub Scouts	4th Letchworth	1st Baldock (Knights)	1st Baldock (Templars)
Watson Trophy	Scouts	4th Letchworth	2nd Baldock	1st Baldock
Eaves Trophy	Adult	Fiona Potts 1st Baldock	Paula Dilley AVSL Beech Springs VSU	Val Tierney (1st 3rd) ACSL
Plinston Trophy	Overall	4th Letchworth	1st Baldock	2nd Baldock

Many thanks to Deb Dilley for organising the event.





Lochearnhead Reunion

Scouts and Leaders gathered at the 1st Baldock H.Q. to renew friendships and recall our summer expedition to Lochearnhead. There were tales of adventurous feats in the mountains, capsizing in the Loch and gliding across the waters in a sailing boat. Tales of blackbeard the pirate and the ghost train passing through Lochearnhead Station at midnight abounded and bagpipes were heard in the background.

Photographs and a video of the expedition were on show and copies of the Lochearnhead Express were given to parents who joined the gathering later in the evening.

Beech Springs VSU organised games and no Lochearnhead meeting would be complete without food - and plenty of it !

At the closing ceremony all Scouts were presented with a Camper and Cyclist badge as a reward for their efforts.....and guess who turned up ?yes McTavish just couldn't stay away ! He was last seen on top of the flagpole.

Well done and thanks to Mandy Woolmer, CSL 7th Letchworth and Lesley Gwilt, ASL 2nd Baldock for organising the evening.

It was good to meet everyone again.

Don't forget Lochearnhead 2005 - put it in your diaries.



Hertfordshire County Council WEBSITE

For a little while now Colin McIntyre, County Secretary has been talking to the County Council regarding making a link from their Website to information about Scout Groups. All Groups in the District are mentioned.

You may log on to the site at the following address

[Http://www.hertsdirect.org/infoadvice/comvol/child2y/chgrps3y/cubscouts5/](http://www.hertsdirect.org/infoadvice/comvol/child2y/chgrps3y/cubscouts5/)

Ron Smith and Alan Wright will liaise with our County Administrator so please let them know of any changes to your Group information.

Merry
Christmas

Crazee Chariot Challenge

Calling all Scout Troops

Date: 11 January 2001

Venue: Norton Common
(Swimming Pool Car Park)

Time: 6:45 pm - 9:00 pm

Bring torches and appropriate clothing

Food and drink will be provided afterwards

For more information please contact

BACCHUS VSU

Tel: 01462 896289 / 07890 505286



Criminal Records Bureau (CRB)

The Criminal Records Bureau has now informed the Association that the system will go live for Scouting to use on 1 April 2002.

The additional CRB check will enhance rather than replace the Association's existing confidential enquiry (CE) checks that are currently undertaken.

All applications for CRB checking will be done through the Records Department at Gilwell Park. Counties, Areas and Districts should not register with the CRB.

The CRB process requires that the applicant's identity is confirmed by seeing and checking certain items of identification e.g. a passport or photocard style driving licence and two documents which confirm the address of the applicant e.g. utility bills. Original documents, not photocopies, will need to be checked.

Ideally, the checking of these items should be seen and confirmed by someone at the District level e.g. the District Secretary or the Secretary of the District Appointments sub-committee. Similar arrangements will be needed for County/Area appointments.

David J C Shelmerdine
The Secretary

Annual Census 2002

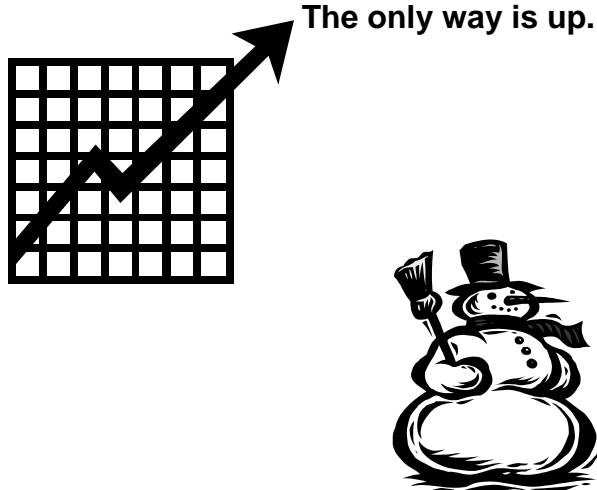
Attention all Group Secretaries

The Annual Census is with us once again and you will be required to include everyone who will be a member of the Group on 31 January 2002.

There are two options for recording - by paper or electronically.

Ron Smith and Deb Ivory-Webb will be contacting Groups with the full details.

Please ensure prompt completion of your return - it only takes one late Group to delay the District return.



Scout day at Watford Football Club Watford v Grimsby Saturday 9 February 2002

A special concessionary rebate is available to Scout Groups attending this match. Further details in December's HSG - a special 4 page pullout.



Wymondley Wood

The planning application for Wymondley Wood has been submitted to North Herts District Council. If this is successful it is probable that the building will commence in April 2002.

With this in mind the time is approaching when we must turn our attention to the internal furnishing of the building. It would be a nice gesture if Groups were willing to raise funds for this purpose or to sponsor a particular room or item of equipment.

A large sum of money will be required so we are looking for volunteers to raise funds.

We will also need volunteers to help with the practical work in the building and on the site. So we are looking for electricians, carpenters, decorators and gardeners.

If you know of parents who are willing to help please enlist their services for next year.

Please let Bob Williams know if you can help. (01462 686727)



Welcome to

Paula Jordan 1st 3rd Letchworth
BSL

Tom Smith 8th Letchworth
ASL

and to David Miller who has been appointed GSL at 4th Letchworth. David was Treasurer and then Chairman before going into uniform. We wish him well in his new role.



Happy Christmas to all our readers

RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS 2002

Christian

Epiphany	Jan 6
Candlemas	Feb 2
Shrove Tuesday	Feb 12
Ash Wednesday	Feb 13
St David's Day	March 1
Mothering Sunday	March 10
St Patrick's Day	March 17
Palm Sunday	March 24
Good Friday	March 29
Easter Sunday	March 31
St George's Day	April 23
Ascension Day	May 9
Pentecost	May 19
Corpus Christi	May 30
All Saints' Day	Nov 1
St Andrew's Day	Nov 30
Advent Sunday	Dec 1
Christmas Day	Dec 25

JEWISH

Tu B'Shevat	Jan 28
Purim	Feb 26
Pesach (Passover)	Mar 28 - April 4
Yom Ha-shoah	April 9
Shavuot	May 17-18
Tisha B'av	July 18
Rosh Hashana	Sep 7-8
Yom Kippur	Sept 16
Sukkot	Sept 21-29
Hanukah	Nov 30 - Dec 7

Chinese

Yuan Tan	Feb 12
Teng Chieh	Feb 26
Ch'ing ming	April 5
Dragon Boat Festival	June 15

Muslim

Eid-ul-Adha	Feb 22-25
Al-Hijra	March 15
Prophet Muhammad's Birthday	May 25
Ramadan	Nov 6 - Dec 5
Lailat-ul-Qadr	Dec 1
Eid-ul-Fitr	Dec 5

Hindu

Makar Sankrant	Jan 13/14
Vasanta Panchani /	
Saraswati Puja	Feb 17
Mahashivatri	March 11
Holi	March 28
Varsha-Pratipada	April 13
Rama Navami	April 21
Ratha Yatra	July 12
Raksha Bandhan	Aug 22
Janamashtami	Aug 31
Ganesh-Chaturchi	Sept 10
Navaratri/Durga	
Puja/Dusserah	Oct 7 - 16
Divali	Nov 4

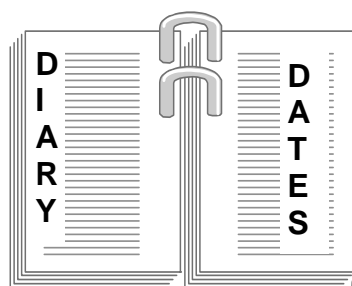
Buddhist

Shinran Memorial Day	Jan 1
Honen Memorial Day	Jan 28
Parinirvana	* March
Hanamatsuri	April 8
Vaisakha Puja/Wesak	May 15
Asa	July 13
Kathina Day	* October
Bodhi Day	Dec 8

Sikh

Birthday of Guru Gobind Sigh	* Jan
Vaisakhi (Baisakhi)	April 14
Birthday of Guru Nanak	* April
Martyrdom of Guru Arjan	* June
Divali	Nov 4
Birthday of Guru Nanak	* Nov
Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur	* Nov

* Indicates uncertainty as to the exact date of the festival as it is difference every year.



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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
11	1st Ashwell First Beaver Meeting	Ashwell Village Hall	4.30 pm - 5.30 pm
14	District Cub Leaders Meeting	2nd Baldock HQ	8.15 pm
21	District Beaver Leaders' Meeting	2nd Baldock HQ	
27	District Scout Cooking Competition	1st Baldock	

FEBRUARY

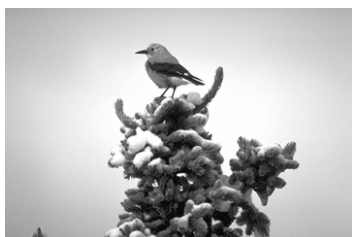
6	Ascension to the throne—Queen Elizabeth II		
9	Watford v Grimsby		
14	District Executive Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
16	Regional Launch PRI		
28	5th Letchworth 45th Anniversary		

MARCH

1 - 3	Peak Assault	TBA	
4	GSL Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
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		
16	County Guide AGM	Hertford County Hall	
17	St Patrick's Day		
28	Good Friday		

APRIL

7	County P.R.I Launch		
11	District Executive Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
13/14	Sixers & Seconders Weekend	Norton Bury	
21	St George's Day Parade & Service	St Paul's	



Neckerchief
District Commissioner
Earth
Sherpa Tensing and Edmund Hilary

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