



November 2002 No: 487



Co-ordinator

Explorers get under way!!!

On Friday evening 18 October we had the first workshop for our prospective Explorer Scouts. It was held at the Sparhawke HQ of 8th Letchworth.



We had sixteen young people in attendance along with a number of parents who had been invited along to find out what the new section was all about and start to understand the different set up and approach we are going to be using to help develop the young people.

We had three small workshop sessions to get ideas on everything from programme ideas, unit name, when to meet and where, and, as you would expect, we had a wide range of ideas on all fronts! (a selection will be published in next month's issue)

Dave Hawkins and Bob Williams came along and kept an eye on proceedings as well as offering words of advice and encouragement to all.

It was a really worthwhile session and has given us a lot to work on. We will be having another get together in the near future to put the ideas into a programme ready for the launch in January 2003.

Some useful information for you all

Leaders - Edmund Tickner and Neil Ward

Administrator - Sue King

Colour of the new section neckerchief - Black and Gold (split left and right - striking eh?)

Don't forget to tell everyone we are on the way, Scouts, friends, school mates - the more the merrier.

Tell you more next month.

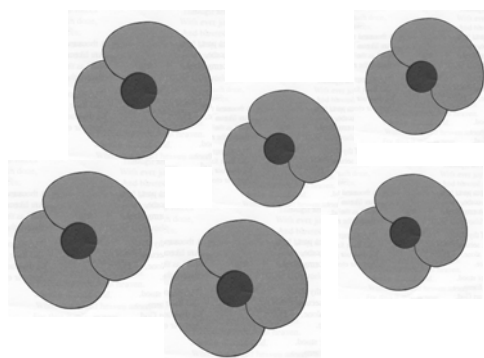
Chris King – District Explorer Scout Commissioner

Remembrance Sunday

Those who have died for their country in war,
Those whom we knew and whose memory we treasure,
and all who have lived and died in the service of humankind:

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.



The Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Bulletin



cubs

Cub's District Sports Day.



This year's District Sports Day was held on Sunday 6 October and hosted by 8th Letchworth.

Conditions were quite windy but the sun shone brightly and kept everyone warm.

Six events were contested by the Cubs – 50 metre sprint, leapfrog, relay, three legged, egg and spoon and long distance.

Everyone took part enthusiastically and all those present appeared to have a fun afternoon.

Leaders and parents made their way tentatively to the start line for the last fun? event of the day. Enthusiasm waned somewhat when it was suggested they run the long distance course but harmony was restored when the race officials gave in and allowed the valiant horde to stagger over 50 metres instead.

A big thank you to everyone for their help and support on the day.
Results were as follows:

1	4 th Letchworth	129 points. Well done!
2	7 th Letchworth	114 points
3	1 st /3 rd Letchworth	76 points
4	1 st Baldock	66 points
5	8 th Letchworth	59 points

Many thanks to all the Cubs, Leaders, District Leaders, parents, grannies etc that helped and supported the event.

Simon Turner CSL (Akela 8th Letchworth).

The Winning Team

Phillip McEvitt
Matthew Leach
Vaughn Lewis
Christopher Goodwin
Johnathan Pardy
Matthew Jones
Nicholas Leach
Katy Goodwin
Ross Pardy



FOUND

A set of keys including the ignition keys for a Ford car has been found in the mini bus at Norton Bury.

Contact : Bob Williams 01462 686727



SPONSORED WALK

It would be appreciated if sponsorship monies could be collected and paid in as soon as possible.

"Goodbye to Norton Bury"

Two hundred and forty people crammed into Norton Bury and overflowed into the marquee and onto the lawns. They were there to celebrate twenty five years of Scouting and Guiding at the centre before it finally closes in December. Fireworks, music, food and drinks ensured everyone had a good time.

It was good to see so many veterans who had been with Norton Bury at its beginning—John Moys, (District Chairman), Alan Goodwin (Treasurer) Barbara Crombie (Management Committee) and Sheila May (Management Committee). The evening was full of memories—Janet Bitmead who had made one of the collages hanging on the stairway when she was a Brownie, Peter Frankland who had spent many hours decorating the new centre and our County Commissioner, Roger Sands, who presented his own son with the Cub Scout Adventure Crest Award at the Centre many years ago. Only a few memories from amongst the thousands of people who have enjoyed the facilities of the Centre.

We were very pleased that Roger Sands and Janet were able to be with us on this occasion. Roger presented Nick Farmer with his Chief Scout's Commendation and District Commissioner, Dave Hawkins, presented Wood Badges to Jeremy Croxford 7th Letchworth CSL and Wendy Tierney 2nd Weston GSL.

The evening raised £1250 towards Wymondley Wood and we must now look forward to the next twenty five years to ensure that Wymondley maintains the proud traditions of Norton Bury and continues to provide adventure and excitement for future generations of Scouts and Guides.

Well done to everyone who made the evening such a success.



Norton Bury - Tuck Shop

There is a surplus stock of Norton Bury souvenir biros, which are for sale at 50p each.

Large plastic sweet jars are required for use in the new tuck shop at Wymondley Wood

Please contact Sheila May

01462 673427



RESUCCI ANNIE

Would the person who has borrowed the resucci-annie form Norton Bury please return it immediately.

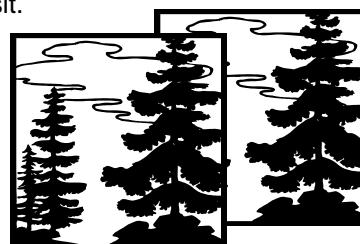


Hitchwood

All Sections are very welcome to use Hitchwood. However, will they please ensure that John Street, the bookings co-ordinator **is notified in advance** of the visit.

John can be contacted at
27 Wellingham Avenue
Hitchin
SG5 2UJ

Tel 01462 454741





Night Jar



I deliberately set out to make this the easiest NightJar ever. I have been involved in NightJars where teams have gone hopelessly wrong. Not this time! Using the new Explorer version maps; carefully choosing the route; using only bridleways, farm tracks and very minor roads and giving each base instructions to assist the teams with navigation. Nobody would get seriously lost. And guess what? Wrong!! Nobody did.

There were points out of 20 for arriving at the base on time. Dead to the minute gets 20; one minute late or early gets 19 two minutes wrong gets 18. Points for on base activity out of 10. With 5 bases and a starting point that was a maximum possible score of 160. The winning team scored 145. Proof that if you make the route clear and give clear instructions then they are not hopeless.

Not that it was that easy. Walking 15k at one o'clock in the morning is not easy. Keeping quiet past remote houses, blisters, freezing cold, upside down maps...

Junior	Group	base 1	base 2	base 3	base 4	base 5	base 6	activity	total
Ashwell Dragon	1 st Ashwell	19	17	20	18	19	12	40	145
Hoppers	1 st Baldock	19	17	20	18	19	12	39	138
Grim Reapers	1 st Ashwell	19	17	19	16	18	2	34	125
Le Coq Sportif	7 th Letchworth	18	18	19	18	10	14	22	119
SAID.com	1 st /3rd Let	20	8	18	19	13	12	24	114

Senior

Zoltan	1 st /3rd Let	19	19	19	18	17		42	134
Norfolk C	1 st Baldock	18	19	15	20	19		38	129
Falcon I	1 st Baldock	19	19	19	16	16		33	122
Rangers	7 th Letchworth	19	14	19	17	17		35	121

Teams from 8th Letchworth and 12th Letchworth had to pull out at the last minute.

Special thanks: Chris Gee and Chris Lewis for their support. Raynet for their back-up two way radio stations, Water Hall Farm for their control centre facilities. 1/3rd for crash-out facilities and breakfast. Explorers and Chris and Sue King for their bases and Nick Farmer for his mini-bus driving.

Dave Strong 7th Letchworth SL



Congratulations to 1st 3rd Scout Troop

Matthew Gee
Adam Marsh
Ryan Gibson
Wesley Tierney

We started off 10.30 pm, there was a full moon it was creepy. If we were late or early at a base we had points deducted so we had to hide at every base because we kept walking too fast.

When we were at the fifth base we had to make a stretcher from our own belongings and sticks that we had found. Then they had a radio message saying that we had to wait there instead of walking to base six. Then I said to my Scout Leader that I bet we won't win because we haven't made it to base six, so I was in a mood because as we were walking from base to base we were hoping that we were going to win—we passed the time watching the planes landing at Luton Airport. Finally the mini-bus turned up and took us back to 1st 3rd where we slept for the night. After breakfast Dave Strong called us together to present the trophy and we found out that the Senior Team from 1st 3rd Letchworth had won—that was me, **Matthew Gee, Adam March and Ryan Gibson.**

Wesley Tierney



Night Jar



On 18 October was the 2002 Night Jar. It was freezing cold that evening but everyone was very excited.

We were all explained that if we went into Preston we would be deducted 50 points. Another one of the rules was if we wanted to drop out we had to do it at a base. I don't think anyone dropped out and if there was it definitely wouldn't be me, I love hiking.

We were all put in our teams of 3 -5 and in our Scout Group, then we set off on our 10 mile hike. I mean on the minibus first. To start off with we were all given phone numbers just in case we got lost.

We were given a set time to get to each base and we had to be there at the exact time or more points would be deducted.

Overall the Ashwell Dragons came 1st for the Junior Trophy but 1st 3rd Letchworth came 1st for the Senior Trophy.

April Bowal
1st 3rd Letchworth Scout

I had a great time at Night Jar. We used a compass and learned to navigate. I've never done this before and even though we got lost we had fun. I was exhausted at the end of it, I thought it was very exciting. The challenges were hard sometimes but they were fun.

I really liked the breakfast. Then I got to sleep a lot. Night Jar was at Night. I am sure I won't forget it for a long time.

Dean Brooks
1st 3rd Letchworth Scout

They came from near, they came from far,
To join the annual Scouts Night Jar,
Across the fields and through the woods,
We walked on as fast as we could.

At checkpoints there were tasks to complete,
We found then hard cos' of our frozen feet,
We reached the end after ten long miles,
And despite the cold we still managed to smile.

The Zoltans for the winners shield,
For the 1st 3rd Scouts it was a great yield,
So give them a cheer and give them a shout,
But watch out next year cos' they'll still be about!

Dannielle Salisbury
1st 3rd Letchworth Scout

Last Saturday I went on Night Jar with the Scouts. Chris Gee picked me up from my house at 18:15. When I got to the Scout HQ I saw many people I knew, and Wes and I went off to meet some. We got to Hitchwood at 22:00. We gave in our names to Dave and our team was called Zoltan and our names were.

Me : Zelda
Wes : Zoe
Adam : Xylaphone (Z)
Matt : Jeff
Tim : Zippy

We left at around 22:95 and we had to go to different bases and we had to be there at a certain time and we got to them dead to time. My favourite base was the knot one, because I think we did the best on that one. I had an excellent time. The only thing that went wrong was I lost my wallet. But a couple days later, a lady phoned and said she had found it and I got it back. All in all it was good fun and a great experience and I would definitely do it again!

Ryan
1st 3rd Scout



Scout Fellowship AGM 19 October 2002

A new team takes over:- At this year's AGM Dave Upson was elected Chairman and Mike Miles takes over as Secretary. Arthur Scott continues as Treasurer.

All members present joined Dave Hawkins (District Commissioner) in thanking Rod Tiplady and Margaret Durrant for their leadership of the Fellowship in recent years and also Joan Ludford who was retiring from the Committee.

Outgoing Chairman Rod Tiplady reported:

"Several members helped at 5th Letchworth Cubs Christmas Party and many carried out 'front of house duties' at our District Gang Show, where more money was donated directly towards their costs this year. In addition, financial help was given towards Gang Show equipment storage, 1st 3rd Beaver colony set-up and 1st Baldock camping equipment. Money raising events included a cake stall, Laurie's Garden Plant sale and sponsorship money from the Garden City 15 mile walk".

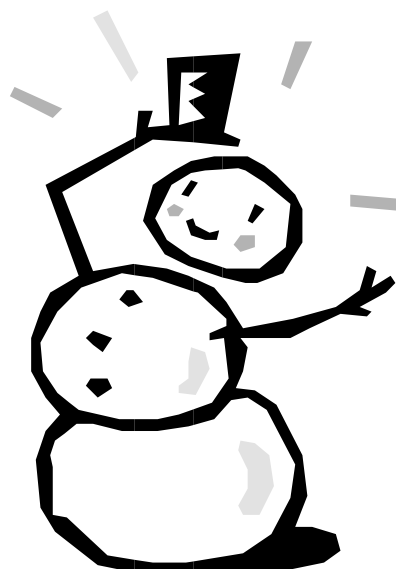
The Treasurer's report showed that the Fellowship had been able to give financial support to several Groups during the year.

Members expressed their support for Wymondley Wood by generously agreeing to fund the furnishing of a room.

Please direct all requests for help from the Fellowship to:-

Mike Miles
16 Grange Court
Middlefields
Letchworth
SG6 4HN

01462 620749



BEAVER SPORTS DAY



Congratulations to 5th Letchworth Beaver Scouts on winning the Beaver Sports Shield.

Matthew Gillespie, Nicky Ledwold, Joshua Carr, Karl Safee and Isaac Wilson

Position	Group	Points
1	5th Letchworth	37
2	7th Letchworth	33
3	12th Letchworth / 2nd Baldock	20
4	1st Baldock	18
5	4th Letchworth	17
6	8th Letchworth	16
7	1st 3rd Letchworth	10

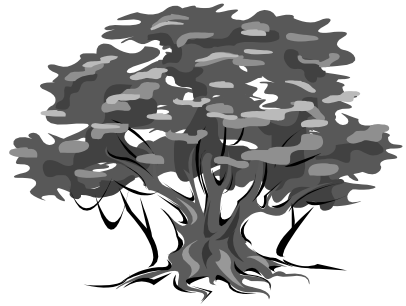
Thank you to Christine Hart , ABSL 12th Letchworth and her team for organising the event.

This was Christine's final assignment towards her Wood Badge which she has successfully completed - well done.

Wymondley Wood

Open Day Saturday 9 November

10.00 am - 12.00 pm



Building Progress The building at Wymondley Wood is making good progress and this spell of good weather has enabled the builders to keep to schedule.

The roof is now on the building so interior work will be not delayed.

Site Safety The builders are concerned about the number of people visiting the site because they are responsible for safety. Please do not go onto the site unsupervised. You must be accompanied by the site foreman and visits must be arranged through the architect, Steve Rogers. (you can obtain his telephone number from Bob Williams or Barbara Crombie).

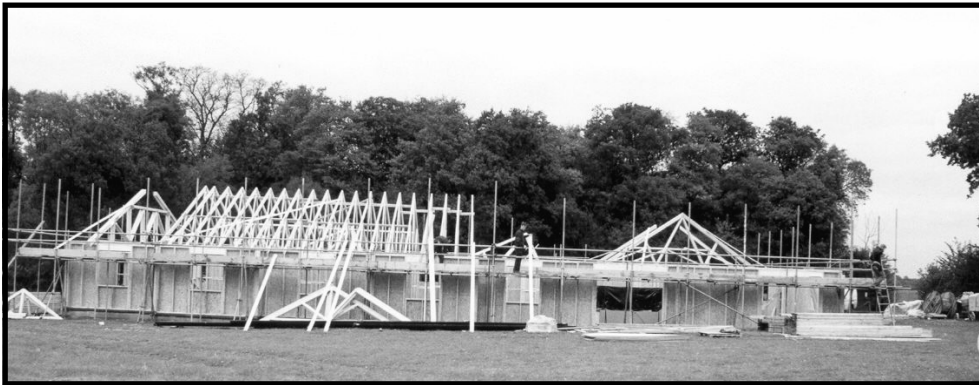
Open Day An open day has been arranged for Saturday 9 November when you can see over the building between 10 am and 12 noon

Fund Raising - we would like to thank everyone who has supported the fund raising events which have been very successful. The sponsored walk raised approximately £2000 and the 'Goodbye to Norton Bury social evening £1250. In addition the Scout Fellowship is leading the way with a offer to furnish a room—a gesture which is very much appreciated.

More fund raising activities are in the pipeline (watch this space) and we have made several applications for grants.

Constitution The Scout and Guide Executives are drawing up a constitution for Wymondley Wood largely based on the current Norton Bury Constitution.

Change of name - application has been made to the Charity Commission to change the Norton Bury name to Wymondley Wood from 1st January 2003



11th Letchworth Scout Group
18 December 2002
2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

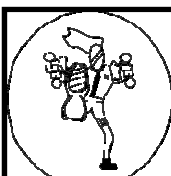


Pop round to Ann Martin's house for coffee, tea and mince pies. All funds raised go towards running of 11th Letchworth Scout Group

38 Chiltern View, Letchworth

£1.00 per adult
£0.50 per child

Beech Springs VSU 25th Anniversary party



Date: Saturday 14 December 2002
Venue: Norton Bury
Time: Mid-day until Midnight
Cost £5.00 per head for party and BBQ

Bring your own drink

Overnight camping is available. Bring a tent.
For further details please contact

Rachel Anderson
21 Olden Mead
Letchworth
SG6 2SP

01462 676551
0775 382782
Rachie@ntlworld.com

RSVP 14 November 2002

Ramblings of a Scout Leader

Got a new Scout who started two weeks ago and is going to be invested at Norton Bury next Friday evening at our 7th Letchworth BBQ. Aaron Giles, only 10 years old, has a brother at 1st 3rd Letchworth. Came on the 14 mile walk with me and brought along a tape recorder and microphone intent on doing a documentary of the walk. Walking along, 'now we are going around a field and my legs haven't started aching yet....' type of stuff. Came across Dave Hawkins at Wymondley, introduced them and Dave was interviewed. Similarly when we came across Mike Durrant - 7th Letchworth Chairman. Funniest one of the day was leaving him interviewing Bob Williams at Norton Bury. What's your name? And who are you? And are you enjoying your day? Left the pair of them nattering away.

**Dave Strong SL
7th Letchworth**

A letter to the editor

I was most interested in your "Good News" article in the October issue of Co-ordinator and must agree that too little is written about the good things that happen in Scouting these days and I often wonder how this could be improved.

More to the point I wonder if any of my old friends in Letchworth and Baldock District remember me and would like to hear of my Scout Group's progress over the last couple of years.

We live in a village about the size of Ashwell and have two Cub Packs, averaging twenty four and a Scout Troop with twenty one members. When I first went along to help on an ad hoc basis they only had nine invested Scouts. Since then and after a long talk with an old friend (Peter Frankland) and the lack of a Leader in the area I took on the role of Scout Leader again after 23 years.

As for the boys and one young lady they have with the appropriate guidance organised their own weekends away including a visit to 4th Letchworth followed by a camp at Henlow, two camps at Walesby Forest, one which was the Jubilee Weekend. Their last camp was the international event run by Cambridgeshire County Scout Council "CAMJAM 2002" which if any one had read Scouting this month will see it was rather wet, but not one of them complained, in fact, they all want to do it again next year at "WINGS 2003" in Windsor Great Park.

Other activities which we have become involved in are the District Cub Camp and Challenge Day, built our own robot similar to that seen on Robot Wars, they now want me to organise a mystery tour similar to that run in your District many years ago by Mr Jim Bruce.

On a personal note may I wish everyone in Letchworth and Baldock best wishes.

**Ray Andrews
Scout Leader
1st Over (St Mary's)**

New Programme Queries

Q1. When should the MOVING-ON Award be presented to a young person?

A. The Award is presented at the Investiture of a new Cub, Scout or Explorer. There is no reason why both a 'Swimming up' ceremony and the investiture should not happen at the same time.

Q2. For how long can a young person wear the Chief Scout's Award from the previous section?

A. A person can wear the Chief Scout's Award until they gain the next Chief Scout's Award which replaces the one from the earlier section

Q3. Why does the Colony Essentials Resource not give any details on how to go about undertaking the Groups Awards, when the Pack and Troop Essentials do?

A. There has been some omissions from the book but this is known about and will be picked up in future reprints of the publications.

Any further questions about any aspect of the new programme can be given to Andrea Soulsby by phone (1462-643992), snail mail (32 The Rowans, Baldock) or E-Mail (a.soulsby@ntlworld.com)

A prayer about World Peace and Friendship

Dear God,

Help the world to be a better place.

Help the children to live with adults instead of living in lonely streets, begging people to give them food and water and to give them a nice warm cosy home to live in.

Help bad turn to good so children won't be kidnapped and die.

Please God help those elders who are dying be better again and to live a longer life time.

Please help children who have got cancer get better so they can go back home and cheer up their crying parents.

Please God, can you help me and others in the world be safe and healthy.

Help those who have troubles, like being ill all the time.

Help people who don't like you to like you.

Amen.



By Megan Soulsby, 1st Baldock (Knights)
Cubs

District Jamboree 23 - 26 May 2003

A successful meeting for the District Jamboree was held in mid-October. The overall plans for the weekend have now been settled and just the detail is now to be confirmed. If you would like a say in how the Jamboree shapes up then please come along to the next meeting to be held at Norton Bury on Wednesday 27 November at 8.15 pm

A few people have been expressing concerns about the costs of the Jamboree. I would like to reiterate that the proposed costs of £50, are per person who is camping for the full weekend and these costs are FULLY inclusive of all activities, transport and food. When you consider that the weekend will include a full day's activities off-site, an evening activity off-site and a full range of exciting activities on-site plus all your food and transport needs, then this is excellent value for money. If you still have concerns then please come along and raise them at the November meeting so that we can ensure that all queries are answered as soon as possible

A reminder to all Leaders, if you have not yet returned your form expressing your intent to attend the Jamboree then please do so as soon as possible, as this will give us a better guide as to how many young people we should be planning the weekend activities for.

**Andrea Soulsby
Chair – District Jamboree Committee**

District Skills Day 24 November Cottered

This years District Skills Day will be held at Cottered on Sunday 24 November from 10 am till 4 pm. Lunch will be provided. All Group Executive members are also invited to attend for part of the day as we aim to hold some Administrator workshops as well.

To ensure the day is as successful as previous years, then please could you let Andrea Soulsby know as soon as possible any particular areas of Scouting you would like covered during the day.



Scouts enjoyed a day with Faulkes Flying Foundation



Welcome to



Mrs Apryl Goodwin - ACSL 4th Letchworth

Mr Dana Brooks - GSL 11th Letchworth

Mr Edmund Tickner - Explorer Scout Leader



Wardens Norton Bury

November

5	John Moys	487847
12	Val Bartlett	730817
19	Kay Skingsley	672544
26	Shirley Rossall	431884

December

3	Julia Pollard	686190
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Wood Badge

Congratulations to

Christine Hart ABSL 12th Letchworth



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

Phase 4 (Scouts)

Amanda Woolmer ACSL 7th Letchworth

Lesley Gwilt ASL 2nd Baldock

Tony Freeman ASL 4th Letchworth

District Directory Update

The District will be updating the District Directory. Please can all group GSLs / Chairmans / or Secretaries please notify Ron Smith or Alan Wright of any amendments required to their Group details.

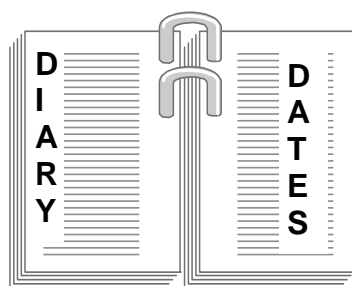
Contact details for Ron Smith and Alan Wright are on the back page of the Directory

Hertfordshire Training Dates coming up

Phase 4 (Explorers/Ventures)	- 23/24 Nov plus 2 other dates tba in 2003
Phase 3/44	- 2 Feb plus 9 March 2003
Phase 5/32	- Tues 11 Feb plus 29/30 March 2003
Phase 4 (Cubs)	- 28 Feb-2 March plus 16-18 May 2003

I would urge all leaders who have started their training under the current scheme to make every effort to try and complete it by the end of 2003.

If you would like an application form or more details about the above training opportunities then please contact Andrea Soulsby – ADC (Adult Training)
01462 643992
a.soulsby@ntlworld.com



20022002

November

2	Gang Show Rehearsals	1st 3rd Letchworth HQ	
2	Duke of Edinburgh's Awareness Day -	Well End	10.00 am - 2.00 pm
10	Remembrance Service		
11	District Cub Scout Leaders' Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
12	District Fund Raising Meeting	1 South Close	8.00 pm
14	District Executive Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
14	County - District Explorer Scout Commissioners' Meeting -	Tolmers	8.00 pm
15	District Cub Quiz -	5th Letchworth HQ, Spring Road	
15/17	Green Beret	Leas Wood	
17	5th Letchworth Autumn Bazaar		
20	District Shop AGM	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
22	District Scout Quiz	TBA	
24	District Skills Day	Cottered	10.00 - 4.00 pm
25	Norton Bury Committee Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm

December

2	District Team Meeting	The Orange Tree	8.00 pm
5	District Scout Leaders' Meeting	Norton Bury	
12	District Executive	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
13	Norton Bury Wardens' Social Evening	Norton Bury	
14	Beech Springs VSU 25th Anniversary	Norton Bury	4.00 pm until late
18	Coffee Morning	38 Chiltern View	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

January 2003

09	District Executive Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
13	District Beaver Leaders' Meeting		8.00 pm

February

13	District Executive Meeting	Norton Bury	8.00 pm
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A timely reminder to all Leaders.

As you are aware from 1 January 2003 all Leaders are required to have changed to the new uniform.

Dave Hawkins

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