

## St George's Day Parade and Service



The day dawned brighter than we had originally thought it would and so mid-morning on the 23rd April we started our final preparations for the parade and service marching along Baldock High Street to 2nd Baldock sponsor church of Holy Trinity and St Augustine.

We were pleased to have our County Commissioner Liz Walker present, while our new District Commissioner Rob Coldrey was away at the Windsor Day of Celebration and Achievement celebrating his Queen's Scout Award.

The parade formed up without too many issues and set off on time, (although the bus that they were waiting for to pass was late

on this Sunday!) All the District Groups were represented and about 325 members of the Scouting Association marched along the High Street to the Church, flags flying high.

Once we had seated everyone in the church, the colours were received by Fr Denis Sarsfeld, who then welcomed everyone and started the service. 2nd Baldock Cubs entertained us with a 'George and the Dragon' play including a stunning emerald green dragon!

Scout Tom Stevens read a prayer, as did our District Youth Commissioner Beth Aird and Promises were retaken led by our Deputy Commissioner Wendy Tierney, assisted by Ros Wing (ADC Cubs) and Haley Palmer (ADC Beavers). The colours were returned to the colour parties and for the first time we sang 'God save the King' accompanied by organist Paul Herring.

Everyone left the church and reassembled in the car park, where the CC addressed all present and gave out awards to several Young People and Leaders from across the District including a Queen's Scout Award to Rosalind Hartley who then led the dismissal.



# St George's Day Parade and Service

Refreshments (kindly donated by Tesco) were then served to all who needed reviving! We would like to thank everyone in our Group who helped to plan and manage the proceedings. Especially Matthew Riley our Treasurer who stepped in at short notice to sort out the legal requirements for the road closures and Stuart Matthews who ran the road closures for us. Also, all the parents who helped with car park duties, helping members find places in church and serving the refreshments. We are very pleased that we have been able to donate more than £200 to our chosen charity 'Feed up, Warm up'

**2nd Baldock Scout Leaders  
and Executive Committee**





## 8th Letchworth Beaver Scouts

Before Easter, 8th Letchworth Beavers had a visit to Pets at Home. They met 2 guinea pigs, a rabbit and a very wriggly snake. All the Beavers were very well

behaved, and so quiet and calm, that the animals sat happily on their laps to be petted. Some were even brave enough to hold the snake. At the end of the visit their Host took them into the aquarium area and told them all about the different types of fish.

A great time was had by all !



**Liz Taplin - 8th Letchworth BSL**





## Tree planting for the Queen's canopy

On Saturday 29th April six Beavers, two Cubs and a Beaver-in-training met up with Steve, from ARCH, in the public car park at Wymondley Wood to plant 3 trees as part of the Queen's Canopy project.

This project aims to increase the number of trees across the whole Commonwealth.

The trees they planted are called Liquid Amber maples, due to their autumn colour, so look out for them in the grassy area next to the bottom public car park.

### Ocelot and Jaguar - 4th Letchworth Beavers





## **Cubs Sixers and Seconders weekend 25th-26th March 2023**

This year we had 60 Cubs from across the District at Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre, all ready for a fun filled weekend. This year we added a new base and had a climbing wall bought in from an external company. This was a huge success! Luckily the windy weather behaved itself on the Saturday... Cubs also took part in Pioneering, Fire Lighting including marshmallows, Rope Making, Shooting and a Puzzle Room where they had new challenges including decoding a computer!!

The evening campfire was filled with loud voices and the sound of "Hi I'm Bob, I'm a goldfish...." This is clearly a favourite!!

A couple of groups stayed in the house whilst some groups took on the March weather and camped. The heavy rain started at 4am and continued most of Sunday morning. A few Cubs learnt some lessons about keeping kit dry and will move things inside their inner tents next time. All part of Cub camp!!

After breakfast we had a Cubs Own all about Cubs, the Jungle Book and what/ who makes a family and how this weekend we were a Scouting family.

We ended the weekend with a yoga session, Cubs learnt new poses and had lots of fun listening to music and playing games. Everyone went home feeling relaxed.

A successful camp with lots of great people

**Hayley**  
**7th Letchworth Cubs**  
**Camp Leader**





## **Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts** **Active Support Unit** **(ASU)**

Are you ready for another stage of your Scouting activities?

Scouting without the direct responsibility of young people or the regular commitment of weekly meetings.

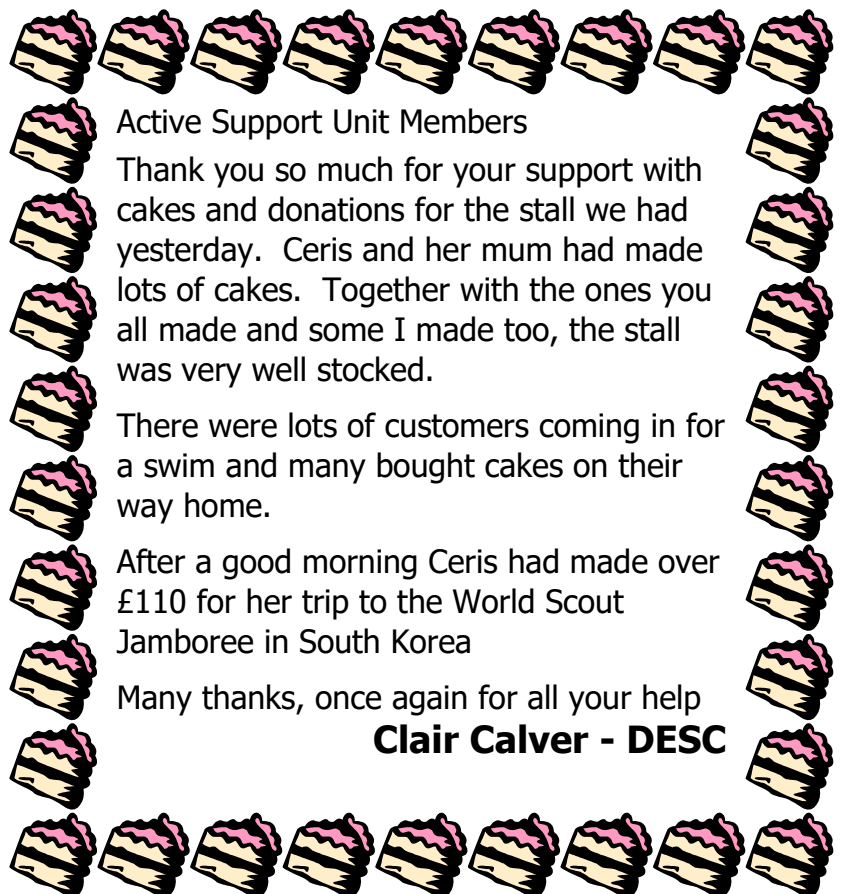
The Active Support Unit is waiting for you and keen to get new members from the Scouting community - existing leaders and ex-leaders, group helpers, parents, and network members, in fact any adult who has a passion for Scouting and the local young people. Membership of ASU is open to anyone over 18, including those holding appointments (though those duties should take priority).

We have social meetings, group outings, support the District Leaders in activities whenever asked and fund raise as required. There is no regular time commitment, it's just as the excitement takes you. It's a gathering of like-minded people.

There is an annual subscription of £5, the official uniform is the existing Scout shirt, activity wear of polo shirt and a very natty scarf of teal and mauve.

**Jackie Hare - ASU Co-Ordinator**

**Email: [jhare@lbdscouts.org.uk](mailto:jhare@lbdscouts.org.uk)**





## 5th Letchworth Scout Group A.G.M.

Census done, AGM next, leaving the lighter evenings next term free for outside activities.  
On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023, 5<sup>th</sup> held their AGM.

Each Section presented their performances, perfectly:

Beavers - did a campfire song and their Promise, totally unprompted by Leaders

Cubs – a hilarious sketch of their interpretation of camping, and their Grand Howl

Scouts – a funny “repeat after me” song for the whole audience, and Flag Break

The Leaders responded with a “seal of approval”, “round of applause”, and “big hand”, as did the audience - once they realised what to do!

We met the requirements for the AGM

We “Thank you”, Bob Williams, for being our External Auditor.

We asked for more help!

We celebrated what The Scouts achieve

We celebrated the awards the Leaders, and Young Leaders have achieved in 2022

We celebrated the Wood Beads tradition as Tom received his, just a little late

We celebrated the awards and badges achieved by the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

We “advertised” Co-Ordinator

As usual, we had FUN!!

**Team 5<sup>th</sup>**





## Oak Eagle Explorer Scouts

A group of 9 Explorers and 2 Leaders had a fantastic day kayaking on the River Stort near Harlow. The trip was run by Essex Outdoor Centre and we borrowed the minibuss from Baldock Community, which was a great help.

The day was warm with occasional sunshine and very little wind which was perfect. After getting kitted up in wetsuits, cags, buoyancy aids and helmets, we got familiar with our kayaks. Foot rests were adjusted and back rests were set.

Initially we paddled in the area next to the centre to practise our skills of forwards, backwards and turning round. Then we had to get out of the kayaks onto a high bank to walk round the first lock. With great scrambling skills, no one fell in and so we were off on our adventure.

We paddled about 4 km up stream, portaging round another lock on the way. The river was gently flowing and a little bendy. We stopped for lunch in a sunny glade and then paddled back towards the centre. A game of frisbee along the way and spotting some wildlife too.

The Explorers had done very little kayaking before the day and all did extremely well, learning new skills and gaining confidence as we went along. Very well done to all who took part, especially those who took a swim and got straight back to it.

## Clair Calver - DESC





## **This World Scout Foundation Annual Report gives information on how they spent the money from our 2022 St Georges collection for Scouts of Ukraine!**

Across the world, the Scout Movement came together. The World Scout Foundation and WOSM immediately organised an emergency appeal on our joint fundraising platform, the Scout Donation Platform, to support the Scouts of Ukraine's efforts as well as those of Scouts in neighbouring countries — Bulgaria, Czechia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia — who swiftly acted to assist Ukrainian refugees transiting through or seeking refuge in their countries.

Over 2,492 donations were received from Scout groups, Baden-Powell Fellows and National Scout Organisations worldwide, raising over USD 700,000 — a record for a Scout Donation Platform appeal! And these efforts were further boosted by a strong partnership between WOSM and UNICEF to provide critical care and support in Ukraine and neighbouring countries and by the innumerable Scout actions in neighbouring countries as well as destination countries for refugees further afield.

By the end of 2022, Scout volunteers had already supported **over 800,000 displaced Ukrainian children and families in Ukraine and neighbouring countries**, to address urgent needs, arranging accommodation, translation, essential items and psychological first aid. In addition, they established day care centres and worked closely with refugee children and adolescents at refugee and transit centres, offering educational and skills-building activities including by integrating refugee children into local Scout groups.

***If you donated or volunteered to help, please know that you made a difference and that your support was crucial, helping Scouts continue to sustain and scale up their action. Thank you.***





## District News

**Compass Email Addresses** - Please could everyone ensure , if you have one for your role, that your primary email address on compass is your Scouting email address. This will be used for all your Scouting communications for National and County. As well as some other uses in the future.

**King's Coronation Badge** - The King's Coronation Badges are now with the District and are being distributed to the Groups.

**District Development Survey** - You should have all received a link to the District Development Survey.

The results of this survey will help to guide where the District will focus its resources over the next few years. It is completely anonymous, and you are not required to answer all of the questions, they may not be relevant for your role. The survey will remain open until 1st August 2023. If you haven't received the link please contact your Groups GSL or your Sections ADC.

## Mandatory Training

Is your Safeguarding or Safety training out of date/due for renewal? It takes no more than 45 minutes! In your browser type **Scout E-learning Safeguarding / Scout E-learning Safety**

On completion, screenshot or take a photo of the completion certificate/page and send to your TA, or email to [ctm@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk](mailto:ctm@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk)

**Group:** 12th Letchworth  
**Date:** 3 May 2023  
**Time:** 18:00  
**Venue:** Wymondley Wood

**Group:** 7th Letchworth  
**Date:** 10 May 2023  
**Time:** 18:15  
**Venue:** Wilbury Hall

**District:** Letchworth & Baldock  
**Date:** 11 May 2023  
**Time:** 20:00  
**Venue:** District HQ

**Group:** 4th Letchworth  
**Date:** 19 May 2023  
**Time:** 19:00  
**Venue:** St Pauls Church

**Group:** 2nd Baldock  
**Date:** 9 June 2023  
**Time:** TBC  
**Venue:** Church Hall





# Achievements



## Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Dilman Khaira      8th Letchworth



## Chief Scout's Silver Award

Raymond Bruce      2nd Baldock  
Alfred Hilton      2nd Baldock



## Queen's Scout Award

Rosalind Hartley      Scout Network



## 5 Year Service Award

Jay Lamb      8th Letchworth SL



## Wood Badge

Jenny George      12th Letchworth ACSL



## Award for Merit

Liz Taplin      8th Letchworth BSL



# Diary Dates

## 2023

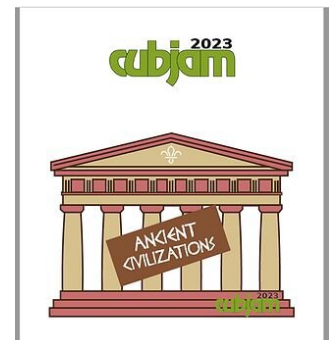
### MAY

- 3**            **12th Letchworth AGM**
- 6**            **King Charles III Coronation**
- 7**            **Coronation Big Lunch**
- 8**            **The Big Help Out**
- 10**          **7th Letchworth AGM**
- 11**          **District AGM**
- 19**          **4th Letchworth AGM**
- 21**          **District Scouts Greenway Walk**
- 27 - 2 June** **Cubjam - Phasels Wood**
- 29 - 3 June** **Half Term**



### JUNE

- 1**            **Scout and Guide Shop closed (HALF TERM)**
- 8**            **Scout and Guide Shop open**
- 9**            **2nd Baldock AGM**
- 10**          **District Beaver Challenge**
- 11**          **District Scout Shooting and Archery Competition**
- 15**          **County DC Meeting**
- 17**          **County AGM**
- 18**          **ASU Meeting @ DHQ**
- 24/25**       **County Beavers in Tents (BiTs) - Well End**



### JULY

- 10**           **County DC Meeting**
- 15/16**       **County Beavers in Tents (BiTs) - Wy-**  
**mondley Wood**
- 20**           **District Beavers Bangers and Bash**



### AUGUST

- 19 - 28**     **Come to Tolmers (CTT)**

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