

Co-Ordinator



Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre 20th Anniversary

On Saturday 2nd September members of the Wymondley Wood Committee, Wardens and friends of Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre gathered to celebrate the Centre's 20th Anniversary and at the same time recognise Bob Williams 50 years long service in Scouting.

Bob retired at the Wymondley Wood AGM in April 2023 after 20 years as Chairman of the Management Committee. He first started his adult Scouting as a ASL in 1955 at Northampton. After a break he returned to Scouting in 1975 as a committee member at 7th Letchworth Scout Group. In his career he has held many roles including District Commissioner for 13 years and has also achieved the highest award in Scouting - The Silver Wolf in 2008. Bob was instrumental in negotiating with the Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation in securing the building of Wymondley Wood and the closure of Norton Bury. Over his time in Scouting he has helped raise and secured grants in excess of £100K both for the District, Groups and Wymondley Wood. The latest being £12K for the new adventure trail at Wymondley Wood.





District Lochearnhead Expedition 2025



26th July 2025 - 2nd August 2025
2nd August 2025 - 9th August 2025

Applications welcome from all adults in all sections to come and help and join the fun and activities at Herts Scout's Scottish base.

For each week we need a Leader team of 25 - 30 adults to run the expedition safely and to make it enjoyable for everyone. There are various roles needing filling both on activities and on station.

There is further information on the District website.

The adult application form is on this link https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5x74n27PHHBuUtVoZ3ir91C7jC5UonFlcCZHLTtoiZ53xzw/viewform?usp=sf_link

25th World Scout Jamboree - South Korea Monday 11 September 2023 - District Headquarters

An invitation was sent out to all members of the District to go to a presentation from the Explorer Scouts who attended the 25th World Scout Jamboree. Members of the Active Support Unit and Leaders from the District attended. We were in for a treat. Not only were we treated to a presentation from the Explorer Scouts who attended the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea we were also given a short presentation from the Explorer Scouts who went to Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland. They gave an overview of their time in Switzerland with each Explorer Scout taking about their highlights of the camp.

Ceris Creedon, Jude Davies, Freddie Hartley, Molly George and Molly Latto all talked about their experiences in South Korea with enthusiasm and despite all the difficulties they had to overcome they thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would recommend anyone having the chance to go to the next World Jamboree in Poland to take up the chance.



POLAND 2027

World Scout
26th Jamboree
Scout Mondial



1st Ashwell Scout Group - Tolmers Activity Centre

Ashwell Scout Group recently benefitted from a very generous donation from Ashwell Village Show which allowed us to purchase some new tents. **Scout Daniel Simon** has written this report about the Scouts' first camp with the new tents.

Day 1

Not many people arrived on the first day, because the Year 6 Scouts were on their school trip, and some others had a musical performance to attend. Nonetheless, the rest of us reached the campsite around 6:00 PM.

We began setting up the kitchen tent and the mess tent. It took us longer than anticipated, because it was quite complicated, but we managed to get them ready. Afterward, we pitched our new sleeping tents, which came equipped with 'blackout' technology. We could afford these thanks to the money donated for running an obstacle course at the Ashwell Show. We were grateful for their support, and the funds were well spent.

With the tents set up, we laid down our sleeping bags and played with a rugby ball. As dinner time approached, a few of us prepared a scrumptious meal of hot dogs and burgers. We sat and enjoyed our meal for quite a while before it was time to sleep. However, sleep didn't come easy, as my tent buddies and I spent most of the night chatting away.

Day 2

We started the new day bright and early. Breakfast was prepared, consisting of eggs and bacon, with or without a roll. After washing up, we divided into two groups, and set off for our day's activities.

First up for us was archery. While I'm a big fan of shooting arrows, I must admit I'm not very skilled at it. We began by familiarising ourselves with the bow's grip and feel,

before competing against the team sitting opposite us. After archery, we returned to the campsite, played a bit more rugby, and then made our way to try aeroball.

Aeroball is a fun game, akin to basketball, but played in a smaller area on trampolines, with two people per team. It quickly became one of the camp's highlights. However, halfway through, heavy rain and lightning forced us to stop. While we were playing, the Year 6's and those from the musical performance also arrived.

Around midday we had lunch, which consisted of a variety of sandwiches made by a few of the Scouts. Once we finished, the groups swapped, and my group went for orienteering. I was with three other campers from my tent. Orienteering was enjoyable, as we searched the campsite looking for letters pinned on trees, which we then needed to put into order. Despite the constant rain soaking and ripping our map into tiny pieces, we persevered and managed to find the final phrase.

After finishing orienteering, we continued playing rugby and then sat down to a delightful dinner of spaghetti bolognese. We washed up and gathered around a lovely roaring campfire, where we toasted marshmallows and enjoyed Simon (our Scout leader) performing songs on his guitar.





Day 3

The final day began with our usual breakfast of bacon and eggs. Once we finished eating, we proceeded to pack away our tents. Though some struggled, we all managed to successfully dismantle our camping setups. Our first activity was a unique climbing wall that resembled a conveyor belt, allowing us to climb infinitely upwards. Some even attempted the hardest difficulty, but most couldn't last more than a minute and a half. It quickly became another one of my favourite activities from the camp.

Activity number 2 was equally exciting, as we crawled through winding tunnels equipped with helmets. The experience felt like actual caving, although the tunnels were colourful and allowed some natural light. Many campers loved this activity.

For our final activity, we engaged in den building. Armed with three poles, two ropes, and a tarpaulin, we had to construct a den that could withstand the "water test." This was the leaders pouring a bucket of water onto our (slightly wobbly) construction. Unfortunately, our den did not make the cut, but the challenge was enjoyable nonetheless.

Returning to the campsite for the last time, we quickly prepared a lunch of assorted sandwiches. After everything else was packed away, we bid farewell to the campsite and departed at 2:00 PM.

In conclusion, I absolutely loved the entire camping trip!





Lochearnhead Expedition 2025



Letchworth, Baldock and
Ashwell District Scouts
Open to Scouts and Explorers
Hertfordshire Schools' Summer Holiday
2025

Group Expedition launches will be held
at your meeting place in **November
2023**

All young people who will be old enough
to attend the expedition, and their
parents/guardians are invited to attend.



District Expedition to Lochearnhead 2025

Invitation to all young people and their parents/carers to attend their Group Launch and Booking Night. These meetings will take place at your **usual meeting place**. Come and find out what the expedition is about and what you would like to know, what activities you may be doing, and chat to the organisers and young people who have been previously.

This is open to any young person in Scouting who will be aged 10.5 up to 18 years old and will last approximately 1 hour. Young people who will be 14 years and over on 26th August 2025 can attend their own Group launch or the Explorer Launch. There are more details about the Expedition on the District website - follow the QR code link on the poster.

1st Ashwell	7.00pm Monday	6th November
1st Baldock	7.15pm Monday	20th November
2nd Baldock	7.30pm Friday	24th November
4th Letchworth	7.00pm Friday	10th November
5th Letchworth	7.00pm Wednesday	8th November
7th Letchworth	7.30pm Friday	3rd November
8th Letchworth	7.30pm Thursday	2nd November
11th Letchworth.	7.00pm Tuesday	7th November
12th Letchworth	7.00pm Thursday	23rd November
Explorers	7.30pm Monday	27th November
(DHQ, Icknield Way, Letchworth)		

Pre-Loved Kit

To help with costs, we are collecting pre-loved hillwalking kit that other young people will be able to borrow for the Expedition to keep their own costs down. This is being collected and stored at one of the local Scout HQs so please give to your leader who will be able to get it to where it needs to go. If you have any of the following you are able to donate it will be gratefully received and reused:

Walking Boots with ankle support and sole grip Size 2.5 adult and bigger
 Waterproof trousers and jackets - with taped seams Aged 10.5 and larger
 Rucksacks with waist straps 28 litre or larger (we also need 60litre+ for overnight hikes)
 Hike sleeping bags that pack down to a small size (approx. 25cm x 15cm)
 Roll mats/Sleep mats

2nd Baldock Scout Group

Our Expedition lasted from the 9th September to the 10th. I really enjoyed doing this, as it allowed me to have fun with my friends, while also making me feel as if I accomplished something. Me and my group (Lena, Niv, Lucy and Boris), took turns map reading and guiding the group. On our trip, we walked through a multitude of environments, such as small towns, hills, alongside roads, countryside and forests.

In the first part of our expedition, I thought water was a major issue. We all ran out of it during our walk, and it was a very warm day, around 27 degrees, which made it even worse, although the second day was a few degrees cooler the second day. By far our largest mistake was going down the wrong side of a river. There was only one path we could go down, and obviously it was the wrong one. The other group had already gone down there, although we did not know this at the time. We worked as a team though and all had fun. On the second day, our group walked 2 kilometres more than the other group.

Raphael - 2nd Baldock Scout



In the morning of day one we got ready by having breakfast and putting our bags for the walk together and making lunch which for me was a ham sandwich. Then we went up and filled our bottles. We got into our groups and had a final check before we left, and so we set off to the train station.

Once we got off the train, we had a look at the map and started our journey back to the camp site and almost instantly we got lost but after we figured that out we back tracked and now we were on the right track. We had a little break at a pond and there were some swans and two ducks.

After we had our break, we found out we need to follow a River, and so we did.

We followed it until we got to a bridge which we went under, and we had a break to see where we were going (we had no idea so we followed the River still, that was a mistake). We looked on the route card and saw that we had to follow the River, so we did, turns out that it was the wrong way.

Deaglan E - 2nd Baldock Scout

2nd Baldock Scout Group

Last weekend, I completed my Expedition Badge for my Gold Scout Award. We set up camp on Friday night at Boyd Field and went to bed early to be up at 7 a.m. for an 8 a.m. leave on Saturday. We set off in two groups. My group left first to get to Arlesey station where we met the other group and caught a train to Biggleswade. From Biggleswade, we set off on our separate routes to head back to Boyd Field. We agreed that some of us would do the navigating one day and then switch to the next day. (I did day 2) Halfway through we stopped at a place called Jordan's Mill. When we set off again, we made an error. After about 10 minutes of navigating through stinging nettles, we found ourselves in a field... on the wrong side of the river. After about 5 minutes of rerouting, we found that the other group had made the same error putting them in the same predicament. At this time, it was near lunchtime, so we stopped at the end of Mill Road and had lunch. After lunch, we got picked up due to the hot weather. For the rest of the day we chilled, did some climbing, and some stand-up paddle boarding.

The next day, the 2 groups set off at about 8:30am on our separate routes back to Baldock. Me and one of the other group members were navigating back, past Arlesey station, out of



Arlesey, through into Stotfold where, on the other side of Stotfold some of our Scout Leaders came out of nowhere and offered us a refill of water and a little snack. We then continued through Radwell meadows, over an A1M bridge, into Baldock where we finished back at the Scout hall. We then collected our camp things and went home and most probably slept.

I had a lot of fun last weekend, and the hikes weren't as hard as I thought they would be. All together we walked over 20 kilometres, but it didn't feel like it.

Tom Stevens
2nd Baldock Scout

Do your best

How to be a Scout

Be kind (every day)
Be brave (in every way)
Be grateful (for what you have)
Be accepting (about what you don't have)
Be determined (in all you do)
Be yourself (there's only one you)
Be cheerful (when things look grim)
Be a friend (through thick and thin)
Be a sharer (break things in two)
Be prepared (no matter what life throws at you)


Bear Grylls OBE
Chief Scout

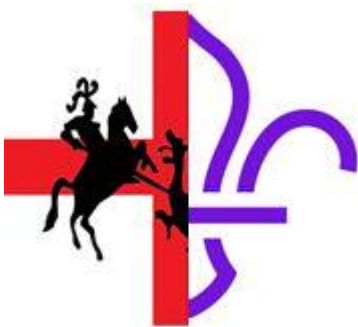




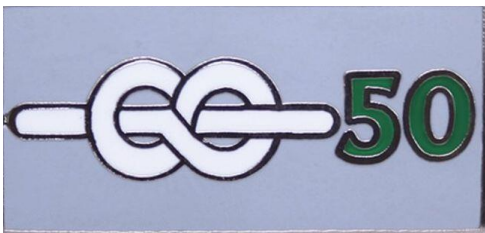
Wendy Tierney, Deputy District Commissioner presenting Bob Williams with his 50 Year's Long Service Award.

The District is opening a new provision for four to six year olds in the Letchworth and Baldock District called Squirrels, to help young people gain skills for life at a time when it matters most and where it's most needed.





Next years' St George's Day Parade will be hosted by 11th Letchworth Scout Group. Save the date - Sunday 21 April 2024



Service Awards	
Emma Hart	ASU Member
Derrick Hart	ASU Member
Bob Williams	ASU Member



Peter Frankland
28 July 1958
15 September 2023



We were sorry to hear the sad news of Peter's death. He grew up in a Scouting family. Both his father and mother held District posts in the 1970s and '80s. He upheld the family tradition when he joined the 4th Letchworth Scouts as an Assistant Scout Leader 1977- 1983 and again in 1994-1996 when he became Scout Leader.

He was also Chairman of 2nd Baldock Scouts 2001-2004.

He was a keen fisherman and for several years organised a District Fishing Competition enabling Scouts to gain the Angler's award.

He received a 15 year Long Service Award.

Remembrance Sunday - 12th November 2023



The Scouts and Explorer Scouts have been invited to join the Cadets on their march from Broadway Gardens.

The theme of this year's International Day of Remembrance is
 "Legacy: Finding Hope and Building a Peaceful Future"

Welcome to



James Burton
 Glyn Holt
 Artie Picking
 Nicola Wilderspin

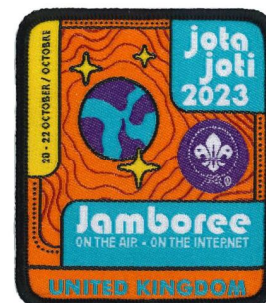
ASL 2nd Baldock
 ABSL 5th Letchworth
 ABSL 4th Letchworth
 ABSL 5th Letchworth

Diary Dates

2023 / 2024

OCTOBER

- 7** District Scout Nightjar Competition
- 8** County Cub Cyclocross
- 13 - 15** County Peak Assault
- 20 - 22** JOTO / JOTI
- 23 - 27** School Half Term
- 26** District Scout Shop Closed



NOVEMBER

- 2** District Scout Shop reopens
- 12** Remembrance Sunday
- 14** Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting
- 17/19** County Scout Green Beret



DECEMBER

- 16** ASU Christmas Dinner

JANUARY

- 9** Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting
- 19-21** Tolmers Fire and Ice
- 27** County Monopoly Run - London
- 30** District Lochearnhead Meeting - Wymondley Wood

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19 JANUARY 2024
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21 JANUARY 2024