



Co-Ordinator



All About The Puddings!

On Sunday, due to the snow, we had a low walk around Llyn Idwal and down the valley back to the Mill. Map skills were improved along the way and the sun even came out in the afternoon

Roast chicken, roast potatoes and veg. Apple crumble and custard. Evening games and snacks.

Monday we headed off to Betws-y-Coed and to Go Below. A disused slate mine full of fun including zip wire, boat, abseil, climbing and waterfalls. Wellies and waterproofs were essential.

Roast pork loins, new potatoes and veg. Jelly and ice-cream!

Tuesday we packed and cleaned up and boarded the minibuses. We had a nice walk around Aber Falls and then it was back in the buses to go home.

A great weekend of challenges and fun, exercise and great food. Well done to all Explorers that came along and did so well.

Thanks to the Leaders who were brilliant. Hard working and great company.
Claire Calver - 14-24 Team Leader

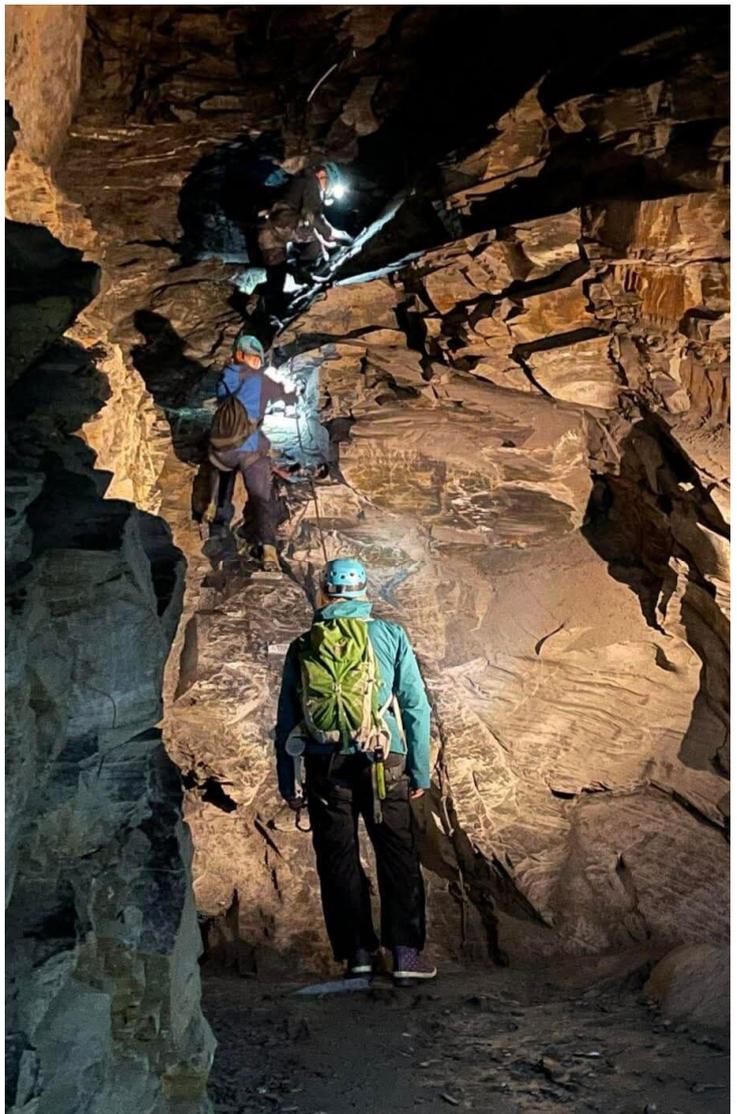
In Mid February we had a District Explorer trip to Coetmor Mill in North Wales. The plan was to get out in the mountains and have some fun.

On the route we stopped at Shrewsbury Prison for a tour and to do an escape room. All Explorer teams managed to escape from their cells by solving clues and riddles. Then it was on to Coetmor Mill in Bethesda. A bunk house on the river Ogwen. Snow covered the mountain down to 350m. Very pretty and wintery.

Glenn was our chef for the weekend. Cottage pie and then cake with custard and caramel.



**District Explorer
Scout trip to
Coetmor Mill in
North Wales**





Letchworth, Baldock and Ashwell Scouts Census Return 2026

GROUP	2025		2026		2025		2026		2025		2026		2025		2026		2025		2026					
	Adults		Young People		Adults		Young People		Cubs		Scouts		Explorers		Volunteers		Trustees		Helpers		Network			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	S.I	
1st Ashwell	17	82	0	0	11	13	0	14	8	0	30	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1st Baldock	25	83	0	0	11	2	0	33	2	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2nd Baldock	10	97	0	0	17	9	0	17	13	0	18	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4th Letchworth	22	81	0	0	18	3	0	19	11	0	21	9	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5th Letchworth	14	46	0	0	8	2	0	9	5	0	17	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7th Letchworth	9	42	0	0	14	0	0	8	1	0	7	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8th Letchworth	17	81	0	0	11	4	0	12	7	0	16	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11th Letchworth	13	43	0	0	12	2	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12th Letchworth	13	61	0	0	14	4	0	12	7	0	23	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oak Eagle Explorers	75	70	0	0	5	1	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	20	1	0	0	0
Oak Eagle (Y.L. only)	5	5	0	0	17	5	0	17	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0
Senuna Explorers	1	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Network																							10	11
Entire District Adults	221	710	203	655	8	3	0	116	39	0	129	55	0	155	44	0	78	27	1	203	0	0	0	10
Young People totals																								
Adults totals																								
Grand Total	879	886	1022	962	879	886	1022	962	879	886	1022	962	879	886	1022	962	879	886	1022	962	879	886	1022	962
% Difference on previous year	-0.80%	6%	6%	-2%	-0.80%	6%	6%	-2%	-0.80%	6%	6%	-2%	-0.80%	6%	6%	-2%	-0.80%	6%	6%	-2%	-0.80%	6%	6%	-2%

Notes Young Leader figure does not include those doing DofE only.

Young Leader figure appears low but the majority are active in Explorers so are captured within that total.

Volunteer and Network figures taken from Membership System as of 1st February, not on Group Returns.

Trustee Roles are included within Volunteers numbers.

Helpers, now Non Member Requiring DBS, therefore are not recorded

4th Letchworth and 5th Letchworth Tech Camp February 2026

First around 7.30PM on Friday we started to make the 'useless box' which was great fun. Then some people started making the technological things they had brought after they had finished their useless box. Later on we went to bed in bunk beds which were quite comfortable.

On Saturday some people decided to finish their 'useless boxes' and some people wanted to start on the tech things they had brought. Some people had a battle-bot that they were going to make, and some people did some programming and made LEDs flash in a certain order. This was quite interesting!

Some of us went outside for some time.

We had bacon baps for breakfast, and sandwiches and crisps for lunch (followed by cake).

After lunch we kept working on our tech projects.

Then we went into the woods and played group hide-and-seek. It was great fun because Jacob used a drone to search for us. It was a bit like the TV show Hunted.

For dinner we had pizza, which was cooked in a pizza oven. We kneaded the dough ourselves and put on our own toppings.

Then we had a campfire and we simulated the TV show Traitors. I was the traitor and I won!

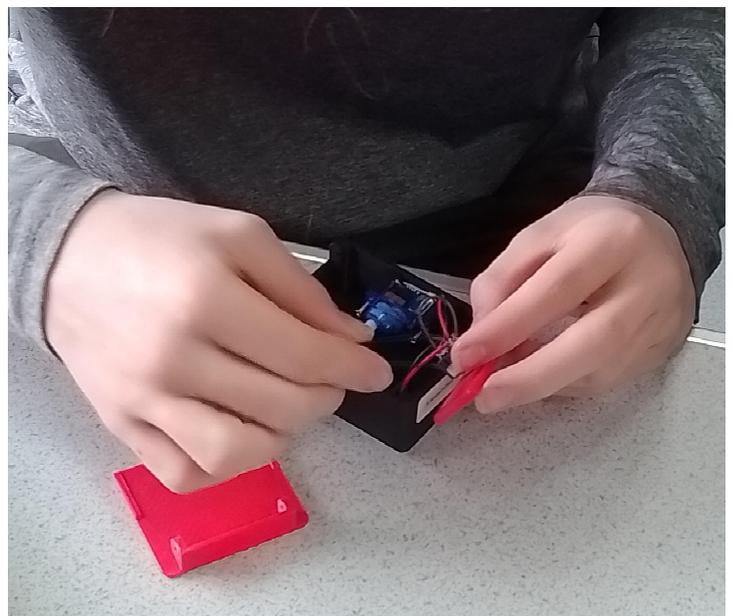
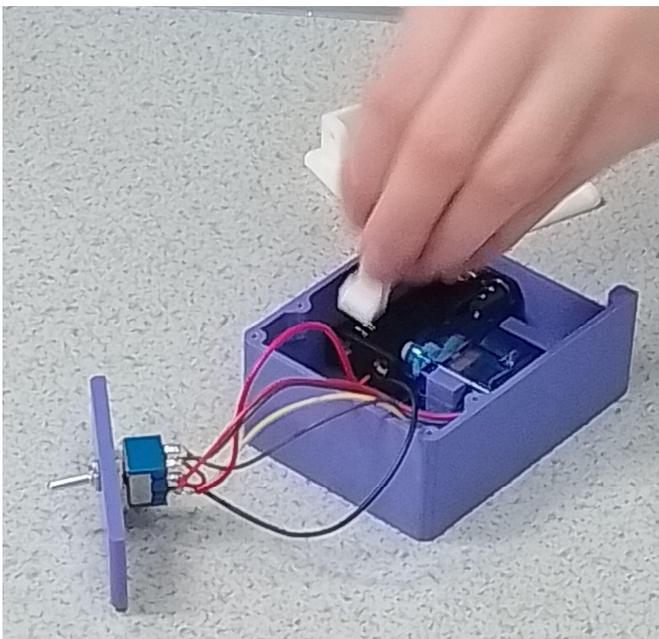
We sang campfire songs before going to bed.

On Sunday morning we woke up and finished our tech projects. Then we went home!

Jude - 4th Letchworth Scouts

In tech camp we learnt a lot of skills and also made many things. On the first day we made a useless box which was fun and hard at the same time. On the second day we thought of what to make. We used raspberry pi.

Aurelia - 4th Letchworth Scouts



4th Letchworth Scouts Sushi Night

On the 16th January, 4th Letchworth Scouts participated in a sushi night. The Scouts set up tables and chairs and eagerly awaited further instructions. Each patrol then received a range of ingredients to slice and prepare. These included; beans, avocados, radishes and cucumbers. After the food was prepped, the Scouts were told to put the prepared food on two tables set out in a row. The Leaders then proceeded to add other ingredients to the table. Among these were; fish, spices and several other additional flavourings that were not typically found in sushi like BBQ chicken and honey.

To start with, the Scouts had a demonstration and then it was over to us!

First we placed down the seaweed and added layers of rice, meat, herbs and other ingredients. We then rolled up our creations to turn them into the traditionally shaped sushi rolls ready to be cut into the round pieces that sushi is served as.

Most of the Scouts ate them straight away and only one patrol laid them out for everyone else to see!

Our favourites were the ones made with BBQ Chicken, 7 spice and herbs. Maybe not the most traditional but delicious!

After that was just the question of who does the washing up?

Annabel - 4th Letchworth Scouts



I loved the sushi! I got to make not one but two sushi. There were lots of different things to pick for your sushi. I loved all of the different meats including normal chicken, spicy chicken, prawns and a few others. There were also lots of veggies from the new Turkish supermarket in town like onions, guacamole, peppers cucumbers, chilli and much more! It was very fun to learn a new skill and I thank the leaders for buying all of the ingredients and teaching us how to do it.

George - 4th Letchworth Scouts

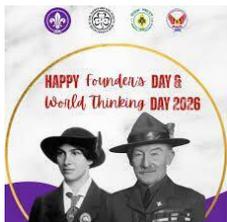


1st Ashwell Scouts Egg Drop Challenge

The egg drop challenge consisted of planning a design for an egg contraption where we had to build the best design to stop an egg from cracking when being dropped from a height. Points were awarded on design, egg nickname, practicality and the eggs' damage marked out of five. Each team gave a presentation about their contraption detailing the material, the design, and our predictions and detailed thoughts on the outcome from our design explaining its safety and practicality. Then we went on to finally build our contraptions and test them. The most popular design was the egg parachute. We tested each contraption by dropping an egg from a flagpole at the top of the hall, where we break the flag for Scouts' evenings, and dropped each egg into a bucket - hoping to have no 'eggs-idents' on the floor. Finally, the results: most of the eggs received no breakages or cracks among our patrols of Swift, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Badger, Wolf and Stag.



Rufus Creevy - 1st Ashwell Scouts



Founders Day / Thinking Day 22 February 2026



Sixteen of us from the District Events Team, Letchworth and Hitchin Trefoil Guilds gathered at DHQ on Sunday 22nd February to acknowledged Founders / Thinking Day. We enjoyed a challenging quiz, refreshments and spoke of the origins of Scouting and Guiding. We also looked forward as we met Explorer Scout Emma who held a raffle to raise funds towards her trip to the World Scout Jamboree 2027 in Poland. Emma raised £80 towards her trip.



2nd Baldock Scouts Indoor Camp Experience

The January 2026 indoor camp was an amazing experience and I had so much fun! Even though the weather outside was rainy and muddy, it was actually exciting to be indoors for once instead of being out in the freezing cold. The indoor setting made the camp feel cosy and different from usual camps.

During the camp, we did lots of fun activities. While the weather was still sunny, we went for a walk. We also played wide games, painted models, watched movies, and played splat, along with many other activities. There was always something fun to do, so no one ever got bored.

My favourite activity was painting models. I really love painting, and we were given tiny characters to paint. It was tricky to paint such small details, but that made it even more enjoyable and satisfying.

For dinner, we had halloumi and hot dogs. I chose the halloumi, and it was soooooooo good! The next morning, we had the choice of cereal or bacon and eggs. I had cereal, it was okay, not amazing, but still fine.

The dorms were really cool, and I loved sharing a room with my friends. The only downside was that my friends snored really loudly, so it took me a while to fall asleep.

One of the most interesting activities was the blind hot chocolate challenge. We tasted hot chocolates from different places around the world and ranked them.

Here were my rankings:

- 1st: Milk-looking one - *SO GOOD*, sweet flavour
- 2nd: Chai tea-looking one - cinnamon-like flavour
- 3rd: White chocolate - very sweet
- 4th: Probably just hot water - plain, tasted like hot water
- 5th: Scout-looking one - spicy and powdery

After that, we went outside to the bonfire, where we sang campfire songs together. It was really exciting!

Finally we played capture the flag THE BEST game ever I had so much fun and the better team won although they did have a weird code call. I just tried to ignore it. The game ended in a draw (I think) but I had so much fun!

Overall, the January 2026 indoor camp was a fun, memorable experience, and I really enjoyed spending time with my friends and trying new activities.

Jemima- 2nd Baldock Scout



Awards



Chief Scout's Gold Award

Ronnie Beery	1st Ashwell
Eddie Denham	1st Ashwell
Jake Edwards-Cliffe	1st Ashwell

**HAPPY 1st
Ivel Spring Anniversary
Squirrels**

**Opened Saturday
24 February 2025**

COUNTY NEWS

We regret that HertsJam is no longer able to take place in 2027. Please remove this event from your calendars.

Visiting Scotland - new criminal record check guidance. Please be aware, if you're visiting Scotland with Scouts and carrying out a regulated role with young people from Scotland, you may need a PVG disclosure, as well as your DBS, or Access NI check. These new requirements apply to volunteers aged 16 and over, so also includes Young Leaders and Young Helpers.



**50 Years of Spring Bank Holiday
at Mersea Sailing Week
23 - 29 May 2026**

Diary Dates 2026

MARCH

- 1** St David's Day
- 3** District Scout Section Events Team Meeting
- 9** District Cub Section Meeting
- 14** County Cub Bushcraft Activity Day
- 15** Mother's Day
- 17** St Patrick's Day
- 18** 5th Letchworth AGM 6.00 pm - 11th Letchworth HQ
- 19** District Trustees Meeting - DHQ
- 20** Spring Equinox
- 25** 1st Baldock AGM 7.00pm 1st Baldock HQ
- 29** County Scout /Explorer Triathlon - Lees Wood Scout Camp Site

APRIL

- 18** District Scout Barton Challenge
- 18 - 19** District Cub Sixers and Seconders Weekend
- 21** Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre AGM— 7.30 pm
- 23** District Trustees Meeting - DHQ
- 26** St George's Day Parade - Broadway Gardens

MAY

- 6** 7th Letchworth AGM - 6.00 pm Wymondley Wood
- 7** 8th Letchworth AHM - 6.30 pm 8th Letchworth HQ
- 9** District Beaver Challenge
- 11** District Cub Section Meeting
- 12** Scout Section Programme Meeting
- 14** District Trustee AGM - DHQ 8.00 pm
- 17** District Greenway Fundraising Walk

JUNE

- 6** County Scouts / Explorer Water Activities Day
- 7** County Cub Water Activities Day
- 18** District Trustees Meeting
- 20 / 21** County Squirrels in Trees (SITS) & Beavers in Tents (BITS)
- 22** County Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Well End Activity Centre
- 27 / 28** County Squirrels in Tress (SITS) & Beavers in Tents (BITS)

Diary Dates 2026

JULY

- 3-5** County Cubs in Tents (CITS) - Well End Activity Centre
- 3-5** District Scout FIRE Quest Camping Competition **NEW** - Wymondley Wood
- 9** District Beavers Bangers and Bash - Wymondley Wood
- 9** District Trustees Meeting - Wymondley Wood 8.00 pm
- 11 /12** County Explorer Chilfest - Well End Activity Centre
- 13** District Cub Section Meeting

AUGUST

- 15** Event Support Team / Trefoil Guild Cream Tea - Wrayfield Farm

SEPTEMBER

- 20** County Beaver and Cub Activity Day - Tolmers Scout Activity Centre
- 24** District Trustees Meeting - DHQ
- 26** District Scout Nightjar Competition

OCTOBER

- 4** District Beavers 40th Birthday Event
- 6** Scout Section Programme Meeting
- 11** Cubs District Day Out
- 16 - 28** Peak Assault
- 22** District Trustees Meeting - DHQ

NOVEMBER

- 13 - 15** County Scout Green Beret - Tolmers
- 26** District Trustees Meeting - DHQ

DECEMBER

- 8** Scout Section Christmas Social
- 10** District Trustees Meeting



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