

# Co-Ordinator

## Minibus Permits Update

With recent changes to the HCC minibus permit system, Hertfordshire Scouts have been looking at alternative centralised methods to assess the competency of minibus drivers in the county. So far they have been unsuccessful. As a result they have taken the decision to allow Districts to make their own decisions on who can drive a minibus.

The District Trustee Board have discussed what we deem to be appropriate and have decided on the following measures of competency that can be used.

These apply to any volunteer that is driving any minibus (including externally hired) for a Group in the District or the District itself.

- MIDAS qualification

- Hertfordshire County Council Minibus Permit

- PCV licence

- Full D1 licence or higher e.g. HGV (Acquired D1 Rights (101) entitlement not accepted)

- Other Schemes may be accepted on request

This follows the same rules as our own minibus' hiring policy.

We have received a list of any permit that has been registered with County in the past. However this seems a little out of date. If you have a permit please email a copy of it to Gill ([gill@lbdscouts.org.uk](mailto:gill@lbdscouts.org.uk)) who can then ensure we have the most up to date information.

Please also email a copy to County ([info@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk](mailto:info@hertfordshirescouts.org.uk)) who will also be keeping a record.

You may have already received an email from Gill if County records show your permit is out of date.

Robert Coldrey - DC (District Lead Volunteer)

## Senuna Explorer Scout Unit

The Senuna Explorer Scout Unit has recently celebrated it's first anniversary. The eighteen Explorer Scouts and their three Leaders have hit the ground running with an action packed programme of Scouting activities and community service.

The Unit has undertaken night hikes to Baldock (before the Chip shop closed) to Wallington, and plan to walk from Dunton on the Solstice.

It held a mocktail evening, a campfire cooking evening, and a pasta making evening.

Explorers have been Go Karting, played Ultimate frisbee, had an in-depth bike maintenance evening and have a pickleball evening planned.

They had an exciting wild expedition, carrying all their equipment through the muddy fields of Cambridgeshire to Steele Morden where they had their first camp.

They were invited to a camp in Snowdonia with Oak Eagle ESU where they climbed proper mountains, abseiled down waterfalls in an abandoned mine and did an escape room in Shrewsbury Prison.

Twelve of the Explorers have done their Young Leader training. Seven of them are actively involved as Young Leaders around the Group and the Brownies. Two of whom are actively pursuing their Chief Scout Platinum award. One explorer has completed his DofE silver and two Explorers have almost got their King's Scout Award.

They have helped the community by doing gardening at the church, running the BBQ For Ashwell at Home, supporting the Scout group with Young Leaders and were heavily involved with the Ashwell Show,

**Simon Peacock - ESL**

### THE STORY OF SENUNA

We got our name from the Celtic goddess 'Senuna' who was worshipped in Roman Britain. She was unknown until a stash of votive offerings to her was discovered in 2002 in a field in Ashwell, very close to our meeting place.

She is likened to the Roman goddess Minerva and may have been a water goddess local to the region. It has been suggested that she presided over a sacred spring; a key attribute of Ashwell is the multiple springs, and the hoard the treasure comes from is near the springs which feed the river Rhee.

Our Scout scarf, or necker, boasts a bold colour scheme featuring royal blue edged with a thin border of daring pink. The royal blue represents water, and the pink represents the goddess.

Gold Votive Plaques from the Ashwell Hoard



Our badge is a modern depiction of Senuna inspired by one of the plaques found, created by one of our talented Explorers.

## 11th Letchworth Scout Group August 2024



In the summer holiday 5 of our Scouts from 11th Letchworth went to the British Motor show to complete their mechanics badge.

This was a well organised event which is open to all Scout groups every year, unfortunately the organisers didn't get the up take this year. So maybe next year add this into your planning over half term.

One of the Scouts said this was the best thing about Scouts. Learning new things and having fun as well.

**Lisa Tassell - 11th Letchworth**



# A Night at the Races

Get your friends & family together, put on your posh clothes and hats and come and join us for a night of fun and excitement at the races!

(over 18s only)



Doors open 7.00pm

**First Race 7.30pm**

Saturday 30th November  
2024



Location: 8th Letchworth Scout HQ, Sparhawke, SG6 4PY

Tickets £5 adult from

**[mike@eighthlethworthscoutgroup.co.uk](mailto:mike@eighthlethworthscoutgroup.co.uk)**

Raffle

Nibbles on the tables

Bar



All funds raised go to 8th Letchworth Scout Group

## Harrison's Rocks September 2024



One sunny Sunday in September a happy bunch of District Leaders went to Harrison's Rocks near Royal Tunbridge Wells. Colin Skuse, Scout Climbing Permit Assessor, was along to improve our climbing and rigging skills ready for Lochearnhead. This was one of many trips we will have between now and next summer

**Clair Claver - DESC**



Harrison's Rocks is a series of sandstone crags approximately 1.5 kilometres south of the village of Groombridge in the county of East Sussex. The site is a notable example of a periglacial tor landform developed in rocks of the Ardingly Sandstone Member of the Tunbridge Wells Sand Formation

## 8th Letchworth Cub Camp Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Activity Centre

The Cub camp this year was at Eaton Vale Activity Centre in Norfolk. Nine Cubs and four Leaders went and we camped in tents. We did lots of fun activities such as canoeing, the cave bus, crate stacking, archery, rock climbing and go karting. Rock climbing was my favourite. I got to the top of both walls.

We went on a day trip to the zoo. We had a giraffe talk and there were two of them, one mother and one daughter. They were very beautiful. We saw lots of animals and lots of monkeys. My favourite animals were the otters. It was a really fun day and we had an amazing lifeboat tour. We finished the day off eating fish and chips.

For dinner we had a barbeque on the first night, fish and chips on the second night and fajitas on the third night. For breakfast each morning we ate bacon, beans, eggs and sausages. It was delicious and I learnt how to cook bacon. YUM!

**Marley McCallum - 8th Letchworth Cub**

I went to Cub camp for four days. First we had lunch and then we unpacked all the stuff from the mini bus. The first activity was canoeing and that was my favourite! One day we did archery and also went to the beach and had fish and chips. We also went to the zoo. At the zoo I saw lots of animals, the best animal was a monkey.

One night I was sleeping in the tent and my friend woke me up to go to the toilet. When we came out of the tent we saw a fox and we got scared. Marley decided to wake Mike up to help us out. Mike was our hero, he saved the day.

**Emily Shaw - 8th Letchworth Cub**



# Achievements



## Chief Scout's Bronze Award

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Elliot Birch         | 8th Letchworth |
| Tommy Hassett        | 8th Letchworth |
| Dexter Hebblethwaite | 8th Letchworth |
| Nate Walter          | 8th Letchworth |



## Chief Scout's Silver Award

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| Emily Collen | 8th Letchworth |
|--------------|----------------|



## Service Award

Ken Osborne - District Chair Trustee Board

## Adventurer Dwayne Fields becomes new UK Chief Scout



8th Letchworth Cubs - Crate Stacking

We're thrilled to announce adventurer and TV presenter Dwayne Fields as our new Chief Scout.

Dwayne's been appointed as our 11th Chief Scout to lead our half a million young people and adult volunteers for his values, commitment to help young people, and outstanding leadership qualities. During his time as Chief Scout, Dwayne aims to inspire even more young people and adult volunteers to join from all backgrounds.



# Diary Dates - 2024 /2025

## OCTOBER

- 1** District Scout Leaders' Meeting - Three Horseshoes, Norton
- 5** District Scout Nightjar (Night Hike)
- 6** District Cub Day Out
- 8** Lochearnhead 25 - Parents' Drop in session @ 8th Letchworth HQ  
7.00 - 9.0 pm to look at kit samples and ask questions.
- 11-13** County Peak Assault - Phasels Wood
- 13** District Cub Shooting Competition - Boyd Field, Henlow
- 20** 12th Letchworth registered 20 October 1981

## NOVEMBER

- 10** Remembrance Sunday
- 12** Wymondley Wood Meeting
- 15 - 17** Green Beret - Tolmers

## DECEMBER

- 10** Scout Leaders' Christmas Social
- 15** ASU Christmas Dinner

## JANUARY 2025

- 7** Lochearnhead (LEH25) Leaders' Planning Meeting
- 14** Wymondley Wood Meeting
- 17 - 19** Fire and Ice - Tolmers
- 25** LEH25 Training Day (week 1 attendees)
- 26** LEH25 Training Day (week 2 attendees)

## FEBRUARY

- 4** District Scout Leaders' Meeting
- 22** ASU / Trefoil Guild Founder / Thinking Day Tea & Cake

## MARCH

- 11** LEH25 Leaders' Planning Meeting
- 21 - 22** LEH25 Training weekend (week1 attendees)
- 22 - 23** LEH25 Training weekend (week 2 attendees)
- 23** County Scout Triathlon - Lees Wood



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