

Co-Ordinator

Operation Ferret 1 - 2 March 2025

Wow,, what an incredible weekend.

We had 12 teams and over 180 people taking part in Operation Ferret, and the level of enthusiasm was absolutely amazing. It was fantastic to see everyone getting involved, sharing their photos and having a blast. As judges, we had a tough job, but seeing your photos made it a special event for us.

A huge thank you to everyone for taking part and for giving up your weekend.

Results:

Galactic Ferret Finders	786
Nothing Better To Do	776
Flying Ferrets	767
Surgical Stoats	753
Team Black Squirrels	640
Grin & Ferret	618
Team Chicken	610
The Dam Good Beavers	532
Magical Beavers Win Games	528
What The Heck	475
Original 5th	447
Scavenger Scouters	421



**Nick Howell - one of the organisers and judge
(Programme Team Leader (Scouts))**

Letchworth, Baldock and Ashwell Scouts

Census Return 2025

Adults	Young People totals	GROUP	Squirrels		Beavers		Cubs		Scouts		Explorers		Volunteers		Trustees		Helpers		Network		Census 2025	Census 2024	Census 2023	Census 2022									
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F													
			S.I		S.I		S.I		S.I		S.I		S.I		S.I		S.I		S.I														
17	82	1st Ashwell	9	12		16	9		32	4			8	6	2	1				99	108	112	119										
25	83	1st Baldock	12	2		31	3		33	2			10	10	4	1				108	173	167	168										
18	84	2nd Baldock	16	8		14	20		22	4			6	6	3	2				102	134	101	102										
22	81	4th Letchworth	18	11		19	9		17	7			9	7	1	5				103	142	99	103										
14	46	5th Letchworth	14	2		7	4		13	6			5	4	5					60	62	59	70										
9	42	7th Letchworth	15	1		12	5		5	4			1	6	2					51	52	66	52										
17	81	8th Letchworth	9	2		13	5		11	13			6	6	1	4				98	82	69	82										
13	43	11th Letchworth	13	2		15	4		6	3			3	5	4	1				56	53	50	59										
13	61	12th Letchworth	15	8		21			16	1			2	7	3	1				74	72	86	80										
75	70	Oak Eagle Explorers										47	22	1	3	1	1			75	58	47	55										
5	5	Oak Eagle (Y.L only)										3	2							5	4	2	5										
1	19	Senuna Explorers										13	6							23	19	0	0										
0	0	Network																		15	39	58	70										
		District Personnel																		17	24	46	19										
229	697		23	5	0	121	48	0	148	59	0	155	44	0	63	30	1	63	66	2	25	18	0	100	122	0	8	7	0	886	1022	962	984
			% Difference on previous year																											-13%	6%	-2%	29%
			Grand Total																														

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
 Helpers (formerly OH) are not recorded on Census

Training Hike

25 / 26 January 2025



Today was an epic day on our Scout hike! We started off from Offley early in the morning when it was frosty but bright, which made the countryside look amazing. As we set off, everyone was in high spirits, ready for the adventure. But by lunchtime, the weather took a turn for the worse. It started pouring with rain, and the wind chill made it feel like we were in the Arctic! Despite the crazy weather, we really enjoyed working together as a patrol. We took turns reading the map and keeping each other motivated. However, we all

agreed that the best part was definitely the VERY tasty motivational snacks, provided by the kind volunteers at the food stations along the

way! Overall, it was a challenging but awesome day, and I can't wait for our big adventure to Lochearnhead in the summer!



**Jack Edwards-Cliffe,
1st Ashwell Scout**



Training Hike

25 / 26 January 2025



I was determined to go on this hike so that I could prove myself worthy of going on to Lochearnhead. I expected it to be really hard but it turned out easier than expected.

One of the best bits of this story is the fact that I got to explore nature. I really loved seeing all of this wild life. Another really cool bit about this hike is that on the way to the next checkpoint, we found a telephone box and in this telephone box it was full of books which was unusual I didn't take any because I already had a series of 13 books at home but it was really cool to see the community helping each other. A really fantastic bit about this trip is that I got to work on my communications skills for out the team lastly and I think this is the best bit about this trip is that I found a really handy stick which served as my hiking companion friend to get me through this tremendous walk

This hike was a wonderful experience and really fun and I would love to try again.

Alexander Killick - 4th Letchworth Scout :)

I was very nervous before starting the hike as it would be the longest I had walked until I met new and old friends to start with.

The best bit was when our group used a sweet shop to gain extra energy to pass by some of the other groups on the way.

The struggle I overcame was when we weren't near the end of the hike and all my energy was depleted and throat was dry when I made my last push to the finish line.

Overall I fully enjoyed my experience and making new friends I would 100% relive this experience and look forward to going to Lochearnhead.

Jacob Killick - 4th Letchworth Scouts

This year's District

St George's Day celebration is being organised by

12th Letchworth Scout Group.

The event will take place on Sunday 27th April 2024.

Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 29 April 2025

Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre

7.15 pm - 7.30 pm start

Light refreshments will be provided



Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre

has a new addition in the kitchen. The old LPG gas cooker has been replaced by a new all electric cooker.

The feed back from the residents has been very good and we look forward to many years of food being prepared on the cooker.



Anne Gutteridge 1955 - 2025



We were very sorry to hear the sad news that Anne has died.

She was Cub Leader at the 4th Letchworth Scout Group from 1996 to 2010.

She was an inspirational and enthusiastic Leader. The extent of her involvement is reflected in this extract from her report to the 4th Letchworth AGM in 2010.

“ 4th Cubs are a vibrant and enthusiastic group of 29 boys and girls. We have achieved amazing results with 8 Cubs having obtained their Chief Scout's Silver Award and the others having obtained over 100 individual awards in everything from sport to local history to art and animal care.

Within the District we have participated in the District trip to Legoland Windsor, Quiz Night, Arts and Crafts Competition, Night Hike, Sixers and Seconders' and St George's Day.

Within our own group we have been Carol Singing, map reading and tracking, night hikes, visit to Sikh Temple, water evening, recycling, conservation and pioneering. We have cooked sausages on a camp fire.

Just this term we have visited Pets at Home, been flying kites at Royston Downs, are going to Ashwell Church, and Museum and a visit to the Fire Station. We have also attended group camp and had a Cub Sleepover.”

In recognition of this service the Scout Association awarded her the Medal of Merit.

Achievements



Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Zoe Boulter	4th Letchworth
Harry Foreman	4th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Gold Award

Douglas Borthwick	4th Letchworth
Luca Clarke	12th Letchworth
Marley McCallum	8th Letchworth
Emily Norfolk	4th Letchworth
Oliver Norman	4th Letchworth
Liam Shields	4th Letchworth



Chief Scout's Platinum Award

Reuben Hobbs	Oak Eagle ESU
Edward Rose	Oak Eagle ESU



Vicki Prowle	1st Ashwell Leadership Team
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Gary Prowle	1st Ashwell (Beavers)
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Wood Beads

Tara Lewis - Smith	11th Letchworth (Beavers)
Nicola Wilderspin	4th Letchworth (Beavers)



Diary Dates 2025

MARCH

- 1** Monopoly Run 'Live'25 - Scouts
- 1 - 2** District Operation Ferret - open to all
- 11** Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting
- 11** LEH25 Leaders' Planning Meeting
- 13** 2nd Baldock AGM
- 13** District Trustees' Meeting
- 15** County Cub Bushcraft Activity Day - Tolmers
- 21 - 22** LEH25 Training weekend (week 1 attendees)
- 22 - 23** LEH25 Training weekend (week 2 attendees)
- 23** County Scouts and Explorer Triathlon - Phasels Wood
- 26** 1st Baldock AGM
- 26** 5th Letchworth AGM
- 28** County Hillwalking Training Weekend (Leaders)

APRIL

- 1** Scout Section Events Team Planning Meeting
- 5** Sixers and Seconders Weekend
- 18** Good Friday
- 21** Easter Monday
- 24** District Trustees' Meeting
- 27** St George's Day Celebration
- 29** Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre AGM

MAY

- 1** 8th Letchworth AGM - Wymondley Wood
- 2 - 5** County Introduction to the Hills (ITTH) - Foundry Adventure Centre
- 9** 4th Letchworth AGM - Wymondley Wood
- 10** District Beaver Challenge
- 13** Programme Team Meeting (Scouts)
- 15** District AGM - District HQ
- 18** District Greenway Walk

JUNE

- 7** County Scout and Explorer Water Activities Day
- 8** County Cubs Water Activity Day
- 14 & 15** Squirrels in Trees 1 (SITS) - Well End
- 21 & 22** Squirrels in Trees 2 (SITS) - Well End
- 14 - 15** Beavers in Tents 1 (BITS) - Well End
- 21 - 22** Beaver in Tents 2 (BITS) - Well End



Diary Dates 2025

JULY

4 - 6 **Cubs in Tents (CITS) - Well End**

12 **LEH Leaders social evening**

25 - 2 Aug **Lochearnhead Expedition**

AUGUST

1 - 9 **Lochearnhead Expedition**

9 **Cream Tea (Event Support Members & Trefoil Guild)**

16 - 23 **County - Come to Tolmers (CCT)**

SEPTEMBER

12 - 14 **Activity Spectacular at Phasels (ASAP)**

20 - 21 **Scout Leaders social camp**

21 **Beavers and Cub Activity Day - Tolmers**

27 **District Scout Nightjar**

OCTOBER

7 **District Scout Section programme meeting**

17 - 19 **County Peak Assault**

NOVEMBER

14 - 16 **County Scouts Green Beret - Phasels Wood**

DECEMBER

9 **Scout Leaders Xmas Social**



Members of the Event Support Team and Trefoil Guild came together to celebrate Founder's Day on Saturday 22 February at the Scout DHQ. They enjoyed light hearted quizzes on tea, and coffee and general knowledge. Light refreshments were also served. Thank you to all those who helped on the day.

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