



Letchworth, Baldock &
Ashwell

Co-Ordinator

District Beaver Challenge — 10 May 2025

The District Beaver Challenge this year was at 8th Letchworth Scout Headquarters. They set various quizzes including general knowledge, money skills, family, planets, along with picture rounds and dingbats. For the second half we hid pieces of paper with a word written on them inside plastic eggs outside the hall. Groups had to find all 15 eggs and collect their piece of paper, which were the colour of their Group scarf. Once they had them all they had to go back to their table to put the words in the correct order. They soon realised that this spelt out the Beaver promise.

The teams were very close throughout all the challenges, we even did a bonus round to see if we could split the top 3 to get a defined winner.

We gathered outside for the results!



1st place	12th Letchworth	98.5 points
2nd place	5th Letchworth, 7th Letchworth	
	1st Baldock	98 points
3rd place	4th Letchworth	96.5 points

A very very close competition, they all did very well. Clearly need to have some more challenging rounds next year. 12th Letchworth will set the challenge.

A big thank you to 8th Letchworth for hosting and organising a great event.

Hayley
Programme Team Leader
(Beavers)

Co-ORDINATOR JUNE 2025 ISSUE 737



District Beaver Challenge



Service Awards / Awards presented at the St George's Day Celebration.

Please see page 7 for the full list of awards.

1. Jenny George 2. Jackie Hare 3. Pete Repka

Introduction to the Hills (ITTH)

2 -5 May 2025

Introduction to the Hills (ITTH) is a camping weekend for Hertfordshire Scouts and Guides, aged between 11 and 13, at The Foundry Adventure Centre in the Peak District. Taking place on the first Bank Holiday every year, activities include hill walking, outdoor climbing, cycling and caving.

I had an amazing time at ITTH!

I am from 2nd Baldock Scouts and the only person I knew who was going, was a boy from my Scout group. This made the experience even better, as I could meet new people and make some friends. The Leaders there were really kind and helpful, and that made my time there even better. On the way there, we rode in a mini bus. It had a joyful atmosphere, and I spent most of the time singing along with the other girls. When we got there, it was late but we quickly found our tents and got to bed.

The activities were well thought out and fun. There was a range of activities - climbing, caving, walking and cycling. The first one I did was walking. We walked for a whole day along a beautiful route. It was really tiring, but the view at the top of the hill was worth it.

On the second day, I did climbing first. We had to climb on bare rocks and the instructors there helped us, so we knew where to go. It was really hard, but I managed to do all 3 climbs.

After climbing, I did caving. I didn't know what it was at first, but it was really obvious. We had to climb down a small hole to get into the entrance, while hanging onto tree roots for support. Once we were in, it became a lot more fun. We had to walk, or in some cases crawl, through a cave. There were some puddles that we had to walk through that were freezing. It was very cool, because we got to learn how stalactites were made and got to experience no light at all.

The next day, it was time to go home, but before we did, we had one more activity.

Mine was cycling. It was probably the simplest activity, along with walking, but it was the one I enjoyed the most.

I liked it because there was a lovely path and view. The bicycles were comfortable and the people there adjusted them to fit us. I enjoyed cycling with the other people and it was peaceful.

Finally, it was time to go home. The bus ride back was less chaotic than the one to the camp. Overall, I had a wonderful time at ITTH and I would go again if I could!

Mia Madjaros

2nd Baldock Scout



Our weekend at ITTH

On Friday night I got on the coach at Baldock services and when we arrived the tents were set up for us. Over the weekend we had great fun enjoying activities including hiking, caving, climbing and biking with our assigned groups of roughly 5 people. In the afternoons we had some free time to play games, chat and have fun with our friends. In the evenings we watched a movie and did karaoke it was great fun.

The highlights for me were on the Sunday night when we all sang sweet Caroline at the top of our voices, and when we were down the caves and put the cave mud on our faces like war paint!

Overall I had a great time - thank you to all the Hertfordshire Guide and Scout leaders who came for making this trip possible!!! I would highly recommend for anyone who hasn't been to go next year.

Farrah Turney
7th Letchworth Scout







Jeff Mason 1954 - 2025



Jeff started at 11th Beavers, in 2019. As the Beaver section gradually petered out during lockdown, Jeff then worked with the Scout section, and was a popular and respected leader. Jeff was instrumental in restarting 11th Beavers in September 2022, and eventually returned to this section.

Jeff loved being involved with all the activities the young people did, and would happily get stuck in with it all. Known for chatting about hikes on holidays - especially in Scotland, his motorbikes, football, and for the seemingly endless supply of boiled sweets. He would do anything to help anyone he could and is deeply missed. He will live on in our memories, and most of us have fond memories of his fabulous humour.

At the AGM in 2024, Jeff was really pleased to receive his 5-year service certificate, and even more proud to receive his Wood Badge Award, and to be able to wear his wood beads.

11th had a redundant school type bell which has been polished and renamed "Jeff", and Jeff will be coming back to Scotland on the Lochearnhead expedition in 2025, and those that follow.

11th also has a new bench, with a plaque, in memorial to Jeff.



Achievements / Awards



Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Ben Chatfield - 7th Letchworth

Wood Beads

Rosie Muge - 8th Letchworth Beavers

Pete Repka - 1st Ashwell Scouts



Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service Award

Sarah Berry - 4th Letchworth Treasurer and Jenny George - 12th Letchworth Cubs



Award for Merit

Fern Boughton - 1st Baldock Cubs

Service Awards



Samuel Nobbs - 5th Letchworth



Andy Clarke - Ex 7th Letchworth Cubs



Matthew Brown - 4th Letchworth Beavers



Jackie Hare - Event Support Team Leader



Barry Dickinson - District Cub Team Member

Diary Dates 2025

JUNE

- 7** County Scout and Explorer Water Activities Day
- 8** County Cubs Water Activity Day
- 8** District Scout Archery and Shooting Competition
- 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** Beavers in Tents 2 (BITS) - Well End
- 22** 12th Letchworth AGM
- 23** County AGM - Well End
- 28 / 29** Explorer Chilfest - Well End Activity Centre

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 Team Leaders and members 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 Section Christmas Social



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