



Letchworth, Baldock &
Ashwell

Co-Ordinator

Hello from your new District Lead Volunteer

Hello everyone,



For those I haven't yet met, I'm Jacob Tyler, and I'm delighted to be taking on the role of District Lead Volunteer for Letchworth, Baldock & Ashwell.

Firstly, a big thank you to Rob for everything he has done for the District, and for such a supportive handover since I officially started on 1 September. There's a great deal to be proud of here, and I'm looking forward to building on that together. I'm also really pleased that Rob will remain part of the team as our District Activities & Permits Lead.

Scouting has been part of my life since I joined Beavers in the 1990s. I grew up through 4th Letchworth, returned to Cubs as a Young Leader, and came back as an adult volunteer after university. Since then, I've spent around fifteen years as a Cub Leader and taken on the Group Lead Volunteer role at 4th.

Along the way, I've helped run District and County events, served as a District Trustee and established our District Digital Team.

Those experiences have given me a good understanding of what it takes to keep Scouting happening each week. I know how much work goes into a successful evening, camp or event, often alongside busy jobs and family lives. Outside Scouting, my work involves helping teams across an international business plan and deliver change. I'll bring that experience with me, alongside a practical understanding of volunteering here in our District.

Continued on page 2

My priority is to help our volunteers feel supported and able to enjoy what they do, so that young people continue to have brilliant Scouting experiences. That means listening to what's working, being willing to tackle what isn't, and making good use of the knowledge and enthusiasm we already have across our Groups.

One message I've already heard is that some District roles ask too much of one person. I'm working on sharing those responsibilities across a broader team, with more manageable ways for people to get involved. If you have a particular interest or skill, or would simply like to lend a hand, I'd love to hear from you.

Over the coming months, I'm looking forward to catching up with familiar faces and getting to know more of you. Please do come and say hello, share an idea or tell me about something your Group is proud of. Equally, if something is making volunteering harder than it needs to be, I want to hear about that too.

Thank you for everything you do for Scouting across Letchworth, Baldock & Ashwell. I'm excited to get started and to work with you.

Jacob Tyler
District Lead Volunteer
jacob@lbdscouts.org.uk





Scouts

DISTRICT HILLWALKING WEEKEND

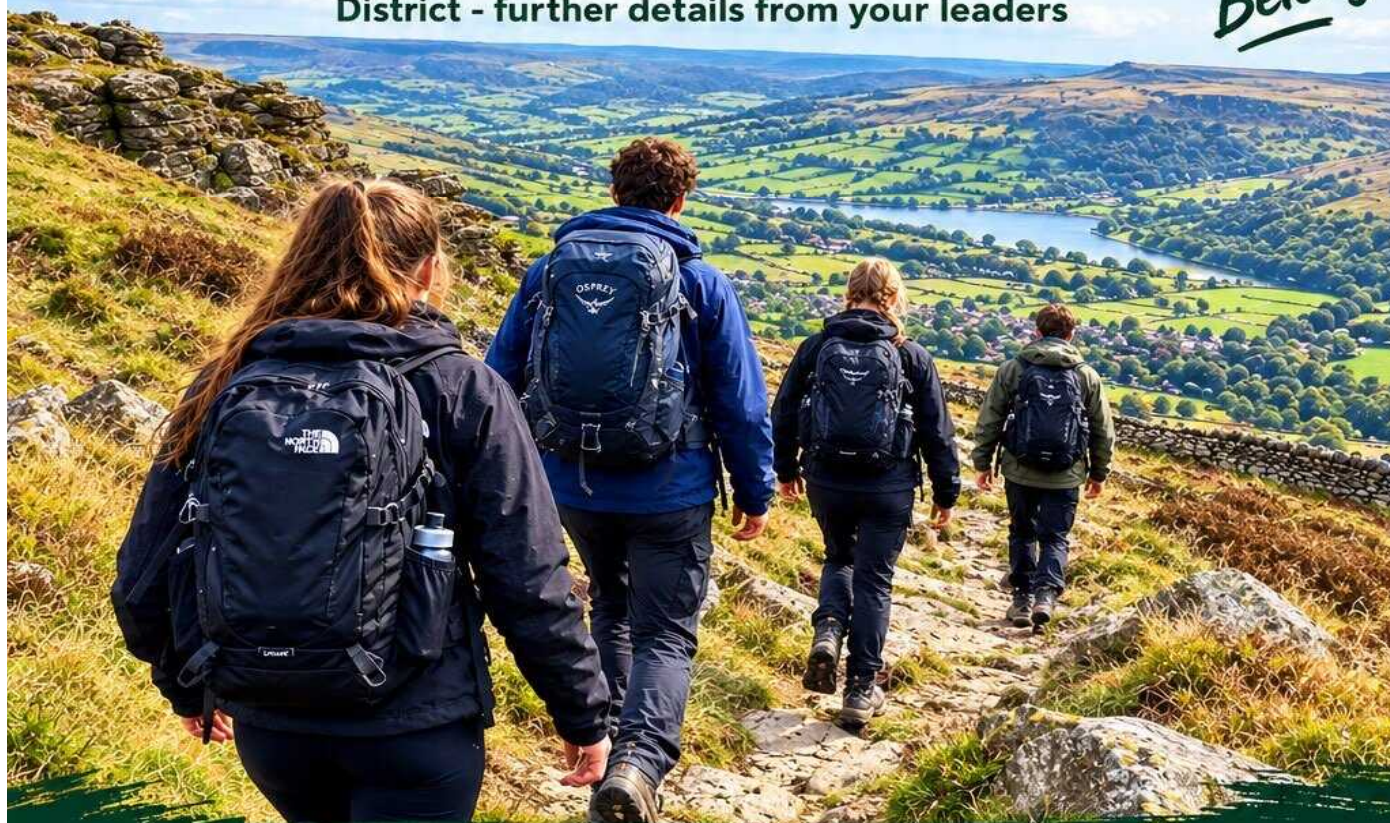
Peak District National Park



11th - 13th June 2027

Open to all scouts in Letchworth, Baldock & Ashwell District - further details from your leaders

*Explore
Hike
Belong*



**STUNNING
SCENERY**



**TEAMWORK
& ADVENTURE**



**BUILDING
SKILLS**



**FRIENDSHIPS
FOR LIFE**

= ADVENTURE AWAITS! =

1st Ashwell Scout Group

Friday night by Fin Plant

We left Ashwell on Friday night and walked to Baldock Scout hut. We ate sweets and had lots of random conversations on the way. The walk was easier than the practice one we had done. In Baldock we went to the fish and chip shop and played games outside while eating chips. When we got to 1st Baldock Scout hut we sorted our sleeping arrangements and Oli and Pete read us AI bedtime stories! During the night we threw pillows at each other, it was a lot of fun.

Saturday morning by Matthew Cross

We woke up in 1st Baldock Scout hut on Saturday morning and prepared for the longest hike of the expedition. When everyone had eaten breakfast, made their lunch, and fully packed, we set off for Baldock station to catch a train to Stevenage. We stocked up on sweets and then headed off for the more rural area of Stevenage, where we got taught useful skills with a compass and a map. The two patrols soon separated, but both heading towards Weston, then Clothall.

Saturday afternoon by Elliot Kitching

We had a picnic lunch in Weston on a bench and then walked to Clothall - it was quite easy to find the way there. When we arrived at Clothall Village Hall, we set up our beds and chilled out. A District Leader (Jacob Tyler) came and talked to us and we shared some of our expedition reports. Then we cooked dinner on the camping stoves. I had sweet and sour chicken, which was really good. After dinner, a small group of us went to the church with Pete and Oli and very luckily bumped into a church warden there who knew all about it. We saw a 400 year old key. It was massive! We played a brilliant game called Mafia and the older ones made up a funny play for us to watch in the evening.

Sunday morning by Seb Bassill

We woke up on Sunday morning and packed our bags for the final day of the expedition. While we were packing, the Leaders cooked us a delicious breakfast consisting of bacon and egg baps. While we were eating, we planned our route back home. We then set off from Clothall, hiking through Bygrave to Ashwell while the other patrol went through Baldock to buy sweets! On the way we passed what we thought was an airstrip but turned out to be a model flying club! We also crossed the train tracks between Baldock and Ashwell & Morden stations and a train honked at us! We then continued walking through Bygrave and down Arbury Banks into Ashwell. Overall, it was a really fun experience!





Oak Eagle Explorer Scout Unit

Oak Eagle ESU went to Eaton Vale in Norwich for our summer camp this year. The weather had calmed down and we enjoyed a few days of warm sunshine.

We visited Whitlingham water centre for sailing, kayaking and raft building. We had a day hike on the Wherryman Way which was a lovely route along the river. With the new Explorer programme up and running we completed the camper badge.

Wednesday was our last day as we wanted to be home for GCSE results on Thursday. We headed off to Cromer for the day. Crazy golf, chips on the pier and Glenn arranged for his mates in the Red Arrows to fly over. What a display!



In the afternoon we had been asked to meet with Dame Rachel DeSouza, who is the Children's Commissioner. Her job is to work alongside the government and oversee any decisions that may affect children. She came with an entourage of people to film and record the meeting. Also joining us was Chris James for Scout Association HQ. The interview was very interesting. Dame Rachel asked the Explorers about what they enjoyed about Scouting, what they felt about

school, social media, friends, covid, lock down, mental health and more.

Dame Rachel has direct contact with the new Prime Minister. The last question was 'If they could speak directly to the Prime Minister, what would they ask or say' ?

Then it was wetsuits on and an awesome surf lesson!

The Explorers were absolutely outstanding. Myself and the leader team were so proud of them. They spoke confidently, with mature, interesting and well thought out opinions. Dame Rachel, her team and Chris from HQ were very impressed with their conduct.

You can see the media results on the links

[Scouts on board with Children's Commissioner's Big Future survey](#) | [News](#) | [Scouts](#)





Oak Eagles were off again, this time to the Olympic white water centre.

Wetsuits on, buoyancy aids and helmets too and it was rafting first. After a swim test in the rapids it was on to the big course. Ten people in a raft, including the instructor and the fun began. The rapids were big and bouncy with stoppers and drops to get stuck into. Great fun for all.

In the afternoon it was Hydro-Speeding. This is swimming down the rapids with a big float and flippers on. It was very tiring but brilliant.



8th Letchworth Cubs Camp 2026

This year, at 8th Letchworth Cubs, we went to Eaton Vale Scout & Guide centre for our eventful (well that's one way to describe it) summer camp. Here's what we got up to:

Cave Bus - When we did the cave bus, we liked the thought and effort in removing the engine to make it suitable for us. The best bit was when we got to drive the bus! Even though it didn't move, we could play with the buttons and levers easing our 'MUST PRESS THAT BUTTON' needs. Our verdict (out of around 12) was we didn't like it because of the sharp twists, turns and ends in the tunnels.

Archery and Shooting - In archery we did a few competitions, but the adults obviously won with their experience with a bow and arrow (and Ninja Bumblebee) but boys weren't far behind. Girls, on the other hand, had done a good job with a few bullseyes. I was annoyed with my score because I forgot to bring my glasses from the tent!

Canoeing - In canoeing, a few of us had a bit of trouble and were doing doughnuts (spinning) so we tied our canoes together and played uber boat to go forward and get our instructor to the right place. Finally, we could jump in! When someone lost their shoe, I bravely rescued it despite the cold.

Camplife and Killer Bugs - When it was night, on the fourth day, there was a 'killer' bug (it was just a woodlouse not a horsefly). My tent mates were petrified by the bug that had crept into the tent with us. They thought it was a horsefly! When I was told about them, I wasn't bothered, but was told to call Mike to remove it from our tent so the 'killer' bug couldn't bite us. Thanks Mike!

Climbing and Crate Stacking - Crate stacking was great with a 'crate' throne for the highest stacker! Some of us didn't get very high but still had a lot of fun! During climbing, lots of us made it very high, but I found it easy and was at the top in thirty seconds! That was the easy wall, so a hard wall would take a minute.

Bathroom Party - In the girls' toilet was a party. Everyone was singing One Direction and Benson Boone at the top of their lungs. We had a cover of 'What makes you beautiful' by One Direction, sung by the Scouts Tabby and Kiera .

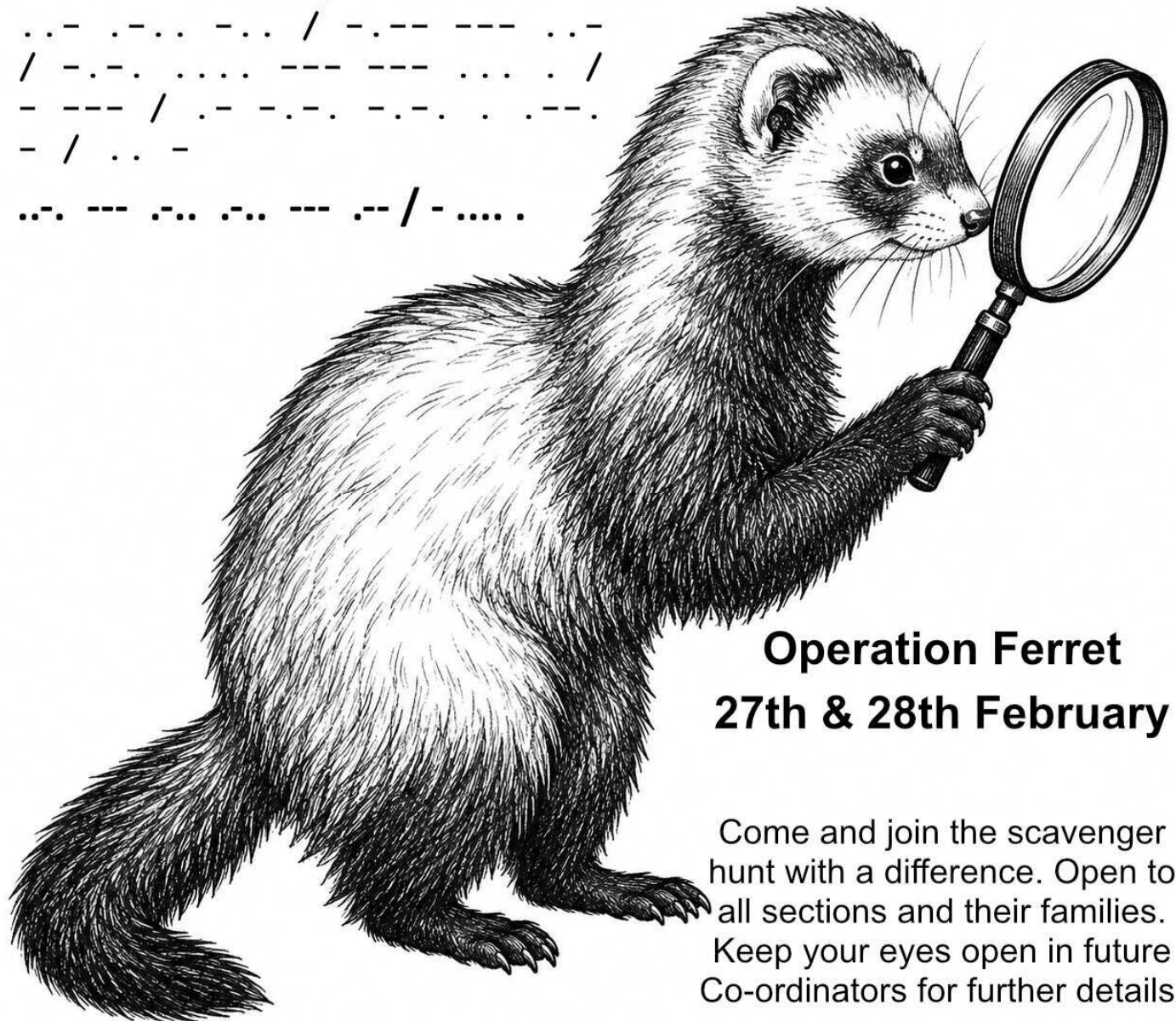
Obstacle Course - Tightrope, tyre fort, tunnel, twine crawling, trenches. No, I'm not just naming things beginning with T. Jumping over tyres, wheel roller, rope swing and tyre step. That's the obstacle course we did. It took about three minutes to go around it, but turns out some Cubs took one minute and thirty seconds to go around the course.

Overall, this year's camp was amazing. It was funny, adventurous and full of memories.

Elia Ewen - 8th Letchworth Cub



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Operation Ferret 27th & 28th February

Come and join the scavenger hunt with a difference. Open to all sections and their families. Keep your eyes open in future Co-ordinators for further details.



Remembrance Parade
Sunday
8th November 2026



District Scout Shop

With a new term starting here are the local Scout Shop opening times for Autumn 2026:

01.09.2026 - 22.10.2026 Tuesdays and Thursdays 1800 - 2000

05.11.2026 - 10.12.2026 Thursdays 1800 - 2000



The shop is at the back of Scout DHQ 141 Icknield Way, Letchworth, SG5 4AD. There is a sign at the top of the steps when open.

We have a good range of both new and preloved uniform for all Scouting Sections, preloved boots, preloved waterproof jackets and trousers, preloved fleeces and wicking underlayers and some essential camping equipment.

All profits from the shop go into

District Funds so buying from the shop or donating old uniform helps to fund District Events.

Please support us and your District Scouts.

Kind regards

Chris Tyler

Shop Lead Volunteer

Awards



Chief Scout's Gold Award

Alex Davis

8th Letchworth

Diary Dates 2026 / 2027

OCTOBER

- 2 - 4** Tolmers Activity Day (TAD)
- 4** District Beavers' 40th Birthday - Boyd Field, Henlow
- 6** Autumn Term Scout Section Programme Meeting
- 11** County Scouting Skills Leaders' Day
- 11** District Cub Day Out
- 16 - 18** County Peak Assault Competition
- 22** District Trustees' Meeting - DHQ
- 24** County RYA Safety Boat Course



**TOLMERS
ACTIVITY
DAY 2026**

NOVEMBER

- 8** Remembrance Parade
- 10** Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting
- 13 - 15** County Green Beret - Phasels Wood
- 15** District First Response Course - Baldock
- 26** District Trustees' Meeting - DHQ



**GREEN BERET
CHALLENGE 2026**
TOLMERS ACTIVITY CENTRE

DECEMBER

- 8** Scout Section Christmas Social
- 10** District Trustees' Meeting - DHQ (only if required)

2027

JANUARY

- 15 - 17** Fire and Ice - Tolmers
- 21** District Trustees' Meeting - DHQ
- 23** County Explorer Scout Monopoly Challenge



FEBRUARY

- 7** County Scout / Explorer Cooking Competition
- 11** District Trustees' Meeting - DHQ
- 21** Founder's Day and Thinking Day Tea and Cake
- 27 - 28** District Operation Ferret (All sections and families)

MARCH

- 13** County Cub Bushcraft Activity Day
- 18** District Trustees' Meeting - DHQ

APRIL

- 16 - 18** County Hillwalking Training Weekend
- 22** District Trustees' Meeting - DHQ

30- 3 May 90 years of Phasels

MAY

- 20** District A.G.M. - DHQ

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