

Co-ORDINATOR

Letchworth & Baldock District Scout Council

District Commissioner names new District Team

No: 655

February 2018

Inside this issue:

Kenneth Johnson	2
Oak Eagle ESU	4
1st Baldock	4
4th Letchworth Beavers	5
New Badges	5
Gang Show	6
Corinne Draxler	6
Achievements	7
Census	7
Diary	8

ADC Beavers	Liz Taplin
ADC Cubs	Amanda Woolmer
ADC Scouts (Joint Role)	Lesley Gwilt and Claire Greener
DESC	Chris King
Network Commissioner	Hayley Palmer
ASU Manager	Dave Upson
Young Leader Trainer	Fiona Potts
District Scouter	Simon Goodwin (Goodie)
Allan Patterson	District Chairman
District Secretary	Apryl Goodwin
District Treasurer	Phil Charsley
District Appointments Advisory Secretary	Ron Smith
District Training Manager	Chris King
District Training Administrator	Gill Palmer



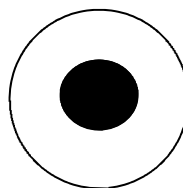
1st Baldock Scouts

Gilwell, an epic adventure.

Winter camp was amazing in so many ways. There were so many activities to do. I did laser tag and airdrop and canoeing. My favourite was laser tag which I did all Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. It was really fun. Airdrop was a bit scary at first but after my first go I really liked it. Our Leaders cooked really, really good food and I wished the camp didn't have to end.

Charlie Cornell -1st Baldock Scouts

Continue on page 4



**Kenneth Roberston Drummond Johnson
(K.J.)**

22 July 1930 - 13 December 2017

It is with great sorrow that we record the death of Kenneth Johnson, affectionately known to all as K.J. He was one of the true characters of the District and had completed over 50 year's service to the Scout Movement.

His adult service started as an auxiliary Leader in the 1950s. He served as a Cub Leader with the 1st Letchworth, 2nd Baldock, 1st Weston and 5th Letchworth Groups. He was a member of the Letchworth District Rover Crew and also the Venture Scouts. He held adult roles such as Assistant District Commissioner, member of the District Executive, District Publicity Officer, Member of the Scout Fellowship and Secretary of the 5th Letchworth Scout Group.

He organised District Scout events such as quizzes, Nightjar, Gang Show and JMT (Jim's Mystery Tour) and he was an organiser and leader of major expeditions to places such as the 1952 World Jamboree, the Lofoten Islands and Scotland.

Ken was unique amongst Leaders because of his role as chronicler / archivist / historian. Over the years K.J. has kept a diary of his Scouting activities together with fascinating drawings and photographs.

He was the first editor of Co-Ordinator, our monthly District Newsletter, which has an unbroken run of 655 editions and he had a copy of them all in addition to a collection of press cuttings and photographs from the local newspaper. These make fascinating reading and provide information to Groups about their history and development. He also edited the Hertfordshire Scout and Guide News.

To celebrate the millennium he wrote the history of Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts.

In recognition of his service of a most exceptional nature the Chief Scout awarded him the Silver Wolf (Scouting's highest award) in 2000.

K.J. had a wide interest in the local community and was a first class publicist for Scouting. He was a somewhat eccentric person who was liked and respected by all who met him.

The District is very much richer for the immeasurable contribution that K.J. made over many years and he will be remembered with affection by his many Scouting friends.

In February 2015 K.J. showed me a list of some of the things he has been proud to do.

(typed in the order he wrote them down)

- Walked to the summit of Snowdon
- Walked a 100 mile circuit of Hertfordshire
- Been a Home Guard corporal and CD Rescue instructor
- Invented charity walks
- Set foot in St Kilda
- Known Melville Basille personally
- Caught a haddock
- Written and published a local history
- Stood in Queen Mother's shadow inspecting County Regiment
- Produced the County Scout magazine for years
- Once shaken hands with a knight (Sir Kenneth Ruddle)
- Broadcast a few times on BBC Radio
- Had letters published in The Times, Daily Telegraph and Sunday Express
- Kept a diary for over 70 years
- Dined with the Directors of an Observatory
- Walked on Magerøya the northernmost island in Europe (expect Svalbard)
- Smoked a pipe for more than 10 years
- Been awarded the Silver Wolf
- Annoyed Michael Winner
- Walked to the four extremes of Ukogbani
- Seen 2 total solar eclipses and 2 World Jamborees.



Oak Eagle Explorer Scout Unit

Winter Walking - Coetmor Mill

January 2018

Once upon a time in a land somewhat far away (five hours to be precise), four Explorers Scouts five Scout Network and eight Leaders set out on what they thought would be a nice, maybe slightly rainy, trip to the mountains of Snowdonia. They were wrong. The colour white surrounded them as they attempted to make progress up the mountain will never be forgotten. Well the Explorers obviously had not paid attention the pre trip info or the ice axes and helmets being loaded into the minibus as snow was kind of the point of the weekend! There was so much snow they had to check they hadn't gone to Scotland instead. Despite all this, it was a victory for Explorers as they all came home in one piece. Overall everyone had a good time, fun in the snow and, of course, Crispy Kream doughnuts.



Maggie - Oak Eagle Explorer Scout



1st Baldock Scouts - Gilwell, an epic adventure

On a weekend in January we went to Gilwell and did so many activities, ranging from high climbs to dirty driving. They were all so adventurous.

We could freely walk around anywhere in the premises and do any activity of our choice. My favorite was the outdoor climbing wall and ropeophobia (you had to navigate through different courses like a tightrope, we were all on harness).

We were catered for really well and lunch was on offer for hours. Hot chocolate was really nice after a day full of activities.

We had lanyards to identify ourselves and they were really useful for attaching torches to.

It was cold but it never stopped us. We went from activity to activity with a short walk in between to keep us warm.

It was an amazing experience, thank you to everyone who helped put this trip together.

Hannah Stacey 1st Baldock Scout

4th Letchworth Beaver Scouts

4th Letchworth Beavers have been raising money to sponsor a Disability Assistance dog, through it's training programme with Canine Partners.

They raised money by selling the Million Hands bracelets and raised a total of £80. A dog costs £52 a year to train, so the Beavers chose to sponsor Frosty (a black Labrador) and we gave the charity the remainder to put towards training for Snowflake (a white Labrador).

For more information on Canine Partners visit
<https://caninepartners.org.uk/>



The Beavers presenting the cheque to Buster and Yaris, with their partners Sue and Donna

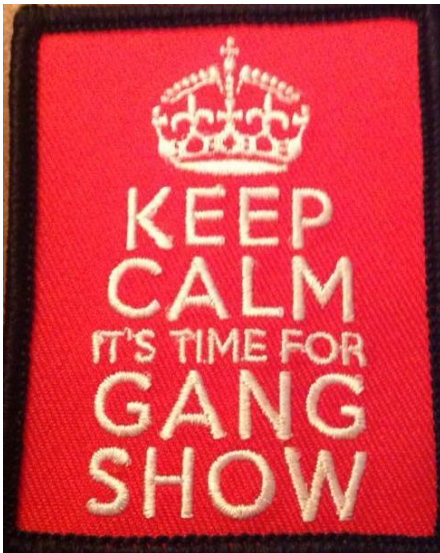
NEW BADGES

These four new badges have been developed and launched:

Beaver Book Reader Activity Badge
Beaver Builder Activity Badge
Cub Gardner Activity Badge
Snowsports Staged Activity Badge

<http://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=767,856>

The requirements for these new badges are now available, and can be included in your programme. The physical badges are in production and will become available as soon as practicable. Update sheets are available to slot into your badge books, whilst the updates to these resources are being made.



The Letchworth & Baldock District Gang Show Ticket Office is open

Friday 16 March 7.30 pm curtain up

Saturday 17 March 2.00 pm curtain up

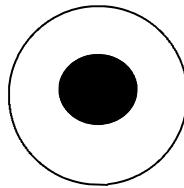
Saturday 17 March 7.30pm curtain up

Tickets are £7.00 each, with group offer of buy 10 tickets and get another two tickets free.

There is a tuck shop in the auditorium run by the Oak Eagle Explorer Scouts.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ganshow>

Corinne Draxler (Butterworth)



Corinne (Butterworth as she was known) became part of the District Scouting community as a Leader back in the late 1990's when 1st Ashwell was being rejuvenated by a team of strong and enthusiastic parents after it suffered a slow decline due to Leader shortages. Her daughter, Danni, was then a member of 1st Ashwell Scouts and this helped encourage Corinne to become fully involved with both the Group and the District. Back in 2000 when we launched the first of our District Expeditions to Lochearnhead Corrinne was one of the first to put her name on the Leaders list. She fitted in with the team perfectly, worked and walked hard and seemed to grow in confidence day by day, happy to undertake any task. She had an infectious enthusiasm for everything Scouting that ensured she became an integral part of the team when it came to getting our sometimes reluctant Scouts to get up and go for it. Following on from the successful trip to Lochearnhead she actively encouraged and supported a large number of Ashwell Scouts in their transition into Explorer Scouts.

Corrinne remained active within the District until she moved away from Ashwell but even after that she continued to be involved with Scouting in Stevenage District. She made a number of very welcome reappearances at Lochearnhead expeditions, her last one being to spend a week with us in 2012.

Achievements



Chief Scout's Silver Award

Callum Boor	2nd Baldock
Jack Cannon	1st Baldock (Templars)
Kayleigh Eccles	2nd Baldock
Katie Humphreys	1st Baldock (Templars)
Ella Jefferson	1st Baldock (Templars)
Mia Jefferson	1st Baldock (Templars)
Lauren Jones	1st Baldock (Templars)
Myah Tarbutton	1st Baldock (Templars)



A warm welcome to

James Burke	1st Ashwell	ASL
Emily Collings	11th Letchworth	BSL
Jay Lamb	8th Letchworth	ASL

CENSUS 2018

Below is a breakdown of this years subscription

The Scout Association	£27.00
County	£13.50
District	£ 5.00
International Levy	£ 4.50
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£50.00</u>

The District is increasingly taking part in International activities which includes part financing five participants to the next World Jamboree in 2019. The District Executive Committee has agreed to include a £4.50 International Levy as part of the annual subscription.

A rebate of 50p per young person is applicable if the District Treasurer receives the Group payment by Friday 9 March 2018.

Diary Dates 2018

February

- 4 District Scout Cooking Competition
- 8 District Executive Meeting
- 13 & 15 District Scout & Guide Shop closed
- 20 District Scout & Guide Shop reopens
- 20 District Administration Evening
- 25 County Scout Cooking Competition
- 26 Wymondley Wood Committee Meeting

March

- 3 - 4 County Chiltern Challenge 40th Ann.
- 8 8th Letchworth AGM
- 10 - 11 Mid Herts Night Hike
- 11 County Scout Triathlon
- 16 - 17 District Gang Show
- 17 County Cub Bush Craft day
- 27 District Scout & Guide Shop Closes
- 30 Good Friday

April

- 2 Easter Monday
- 14 - 15 Sixers & Seconders Weekend
- 17 District Scout & Guide Shop reopens
- 19 District Executive Meeting
- 22 St George's Day Parade and Service
- 24 Wymondley Wood AGM
- 28 Guides Quiz
- 29 District Scout Shooting and Archery Competition

May

- 1 District Scout Leaders' Meeting
- 10 District AGM
- 11 - 13 District Scout / Explorer Walking Weekend
- 20 Rotary Greenway Walk
- 26—2 June County Sailing Weekend

June

- 15 -17 County Bring a Leader



Oak Eagle Scout Unit
Winter Walking Weekend
January 2018

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