

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock SCOUTS<sup>®</sup>

## Autumn Term Newsletter

### What We Have Been Up To



In the summer holidays a number of current and past 2nd Baldock Scouts, Explorers and Leaders (a dozen in total) went with the district to Lochearnhead station in Scotland. The young people did a range of activities from camping high up in the Scottish mountains, to sailing, to making tin can popcorn.



In September 12 Scouts took up the challenge of Born 2B, which is a patrol based competition camp. The Scouts have to set-up their own camp and do a number of tasks over the weekend which are all scored.

As many of the Scouts were new to camping themselves they found it challenging, but great success was achieved with Stags winning the wide game and Wolves winning best patrol.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock SCOUTS



In 2015 a new Challenge Badge was introduced - The Expedition Challenge.

None of the scouts had completed an expedition, but in October 5 scouts came together to support Joseph to help him complete his Challenge Award.

The group made their own way from Baldock to Harmergreen by foot, train and then some more foot on the Saturday and then on the Sunday walked out to Hertford.

Many thanks to Dan who helped support and camp over, it would not have been possible without you.



In November, 2nd Baldock returned to the County Green Beret competition with Paul and Joe (Captain) forming a joint team with 4th Letchworth.

The team enjoyed all of the activities and seemed to particularly crawling in the mud during the activity course.

Joe captained his team to lift the Hertfordshire County Scouts Orienteering Trophy. Joe was so determined to win, he put into action all of his rugby training and carried one of the Scouts who was struggling at the end to ensure they did not get any time penalties.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock SCOUTS

For the Autumn term we had planned a schedule of Computing, Coding and Electronics.

Then we held a Patrol Leaders Council where the PLs suggested they would rather do more skills like knife work.

A re-jig of the programme and we brought in the services of a Scout Leader from Hertford who came in for 2 troop nights and led the troop to make knives/forks and woggles.

Many thanks to all the parents who stepped into supervise, it would have not been possible without you and hopefully most of you got to try it out.

Other Activities this term included Local Knowledge, JOTI, Sending Text Messages (appears to be more difficult than you would think on an old Nokia) and An Amazing Monopoly game around Baldock. Many thanks to Charlie, one of our youngest scouts, who organised the whole event, producing maps, money, rules, leader packs.

Well Done !!!!

In addition to the thanks above we would like to thank Leslie, Chris and Jude, who signed up to the parent rota and without their support we would have had to cancel some activities.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock SCOUTS

## Notices

### Parent Rota

Last Term we tried a voluntary parent rota where parents could sign up for activities and nights which suited them. This had some mixed success enabling parents to select preferred nights, but still required leaders to e-mail and phone parents to support on certain nights.

In the Spring term, once we finalise the programme, we will open up the parent rota for volunteers for 1 week so parents who want to choose can do so and after this we will then rota the remaining parents to fill the rest of the gaps.

### Save Money on Outdoor Gear and Raise Money for the Group

A number of outdoor organisations offer Scout discounts like GoOutdoors. Here is a coupon for 10% off <http://www.gooutdoors.co.uk/online-scout-manager-parent-coupon>

Also, it is worth carrying a necker with you and asking for discounts at shops as a number of other outdoor shops will give 10% discount when asked and presented with a necker.

### Raise Money for the Group

Shop online? Then if you register with easy fundraising first and go shopping via their website, the Scout Group can get up to a 5% donation on what you spend at no extra cost to you.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/2ndbaldockscoutsupportersgroup/>

### Spam from OSM

During the term, after feedback, we have reduced the amount of reminders OSM sends to sign up for events and pay. One way to reduce these further is to say yes or no sooner as this both stops the e-mails and allows us to see if an event is likely to go ahead.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Baldock SCOUTS

## Upcoming events



### **New Term, more camps**

6 Scouts from 2nd Baldock will be going camping on the 12th January to UK Scouts HQ at Gillwell Park. For a weekend full of activities with over 50 action-packed activities to try, from quad bikes, abseiling and caving to climbing, fairground and zipwire. Also a disco, campfire and cinema.



### **Week Summer Camp**

We are looking to run a week camp at the start of the School Holidays, the day after they break up, on Sat 21st July (KTS students in Brittany will join on the Sunday). The cost is likely to be about £175 for the week.

However, we really need a parent or 2 to volunteer for the week to help out with Catering, if interested get in touch.

There are lots of other events planned for the next 2 terms - details to follow later.

