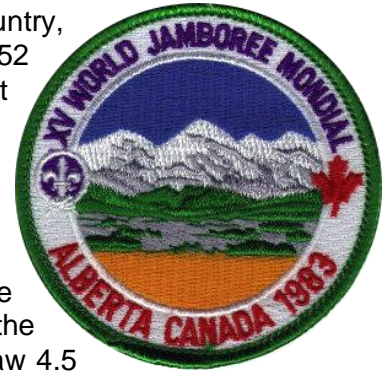


The 15th World Scout Jamboree was held in Kananaskis Country, west of Calgary Alberta, Canada in the summer of 1983. 14,752 Scouts from 101 countries gathered on the slopes of the great Rocky Mountains in a 405 hectares recreational area within the Heritage Fund Project of the Government of Alberta. The site was 4,000 feet above sea level. With the theme "The Spirit Lives On" the Jamboree marked the closing of celebrations for the 75th Anniversary of the Scout Movement, and the 125th birthday of its Founder, Lord Baden-Powell. The Jamboree activities took full advantage of the rugged mountains and the excitement of the Wild West. The first day of the Jamboree saw 4.5 inches of rain and hail fall. All official documents were published in English and French.



The leader of the 1,350-strong UK contingent was Dr Derek Pollard but no badge was produced to commemorate the event.



The leader team from Hertfordshire was headed by Peter Thwaite and assisted by Steve Harris, Trefor Salter, Arthur Phipps and Les Keen. For the first time, a girl (Stephanie Bonfield from the Muntjac Venture Scout Unit, Welwyn Garden City) was selected to join a Hertfordshire Jamboree Unit.

Highlights of the Jamboree for the Hertfordshire Unit included a Venture Scout investiture onboard the outward transatlantic flight above Baffin Island at 37,000 feet, a 17-hour coach ride through the Rocky Mountains, witnessing the Calgary Stampede and a visit to Banff National Park. Hertfordshire's 'cultural' contribution to the Jamboree was a series of medieval activities performed in full period dress. After the Jamboree, home hospitality was offered in the Fruit Belt District on the southern shores of Lake Ontario close to Niagara Falls.

IST members from Hertfordshire at the Jamboree included Janet Ellis (from Muntjac VS Unit).

