



## 21<sup>st</sup> Romsey (Nursling & Rownhams) Scout Group



Whenever I invest a new member into Scouting I always remind those assembled that, as proud of our Group as we are, the person is not just joining 21<sup>st</sup> Romsey but a worldwide organisation. Writing this in the immediate aftermath of the Manchester and London Bridge terrorist attacks it's encouraging to know that there are another 38 million people around the globe, from all religions and none, who wear the Scout badge and consider each other as "family".



Naturally most of our Beavers are only just discovering Scouting outside of Nursling and Rownhams, so it was good to see some of them joining with others from Romsey District for a sleepover amongst the aircraft at the Museum of Army Flying in Middle Wallop.



Our expertise and interest in air-rifle shooting gave opportunity for older sections to meet as we, together with Shackleton Rifle Club of 3<sup>rd</sup> Itchen Group, hosted our third annual Target Sprint event. This is a type of modern biathlon, with competitors having to run 400 metres, shoot to knockdown 5 targets, run, shoot, then run again – all against the clock. Besides competitors from around Hampshire and Surrey, there were again some from the Netherlands and South Africa. It was a very successful day, with 48 participants, several of whom qualified for the British Shooting National Series Finals in Yate in September. What's more, the 21<sup>st</sup> retained the team event title that we won last year.



And the final total of Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers is ... 24,586, which is a record and twice as many as last year. Incredible, thank you! We now have the pleasure of selecting items to "buy" from the catalogue – it will certainly include some 3-person tents, as we bought last year, lots of games equipment and patio-style storage containers to put it in. I'm sometimes asked how much each voucher is worth: knowing that one of these tents retails at £88 makes each voucher worth about 3p and our total over £700 – a really easy way to fund-raise.



Speaking of finance, unfortunately our Group Treasurer has had to step down and we urgently need to replace her. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the Group cannot survive without filling this role, so if you know of anyone who has a head for figures, ideally with some book-keeping experience and who would volunteer about an hour a week of their time please let me know: [gsl@21stromsey.co.uk](mailto:gsl@21stromsey.co.uk).

Randell McKay  
Group Scout Leader

*Post publishing deadline note: subject to confirmation at the AGM we have found a new Treasurer 😊*