



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



Having started by listing ideas of what to put in this article, I'm realising that we have been so busy that I could probably fill the whole update with just those headings. Therefore I'm going to have to be selective.

The Cub sections had their annual trip to PGL, Swindon, where, in the course of one action-packed weekend, they had a go at activities including abseiling, canoeing, zip-wire, tunnels and an assault course. The following quotation sums it up:

Leader: *"Thoroughly enjoyed PGL. The children are all amazing. Watching them grow, their independence, their behaviour, determination, motivation and their support of others is inspiring."*



Building on this, one section then had an evening session on the climbing wall at the District's centre in Romsey.

Some of the Scout section participated in the Chiltern 20 – a tough walk of 20 to 25 km, testing physical ability and map-reading skills.

Naturally several sections celebrated November Fifth with a fire, hot-dogs and fire-works.

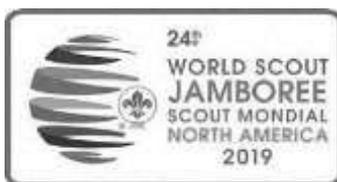
Another annual event for us is the Remembrance Service at St John's Church. Our thanks to Julian and the congregation for squeezing-in about 80 of our young people, plus leaders, plus some parents. As always a moving tribute was made to the war-dead of Nursling & Rownhams.

Our fund-raisers have been busy:

- A team of 3, including a 6-year old Beaver, joined the Rotary Club's "Walk the Test", walking the 8 miles from Horsebridge to Romsey. As a result they raised about £200 for the Group and £50 for the Rotary club.
- Our biannual jumble sale also cleared around £200.
- Rather less effort was expended when we received a very kind donation from a Village News reader (you know who you are ... thank you!)
- Thanks too, to the Lion's Club of Romsey who donated a state-of-the-art GPS unit and a year's subscription to OS maps. This will replace one of our ageing GPS units.



Every four years or so there is a World Scout Jamboree, when thousands of Explorer Scouts (age 14 to 17) from around the globe get together. The next one will be in 2019, in the USA and back in September Hampshire Scouting held a weekend camp to select who should represent the County, as part of the UK contingent. Over 300 applicants were whittled down to 100 successful ones, of which 3 are from Romsey District. I'm immensely proud to say that two of these, Toby and Matthew, are from 21<sup>st</sup> – continuing a long tradition of our Group being represented at international events. Toby and Matthew are in the process of raising the necessary funds for their trip, so if you see them busking, running stalls, or undertaking sponsored events please support them.



As usual, my heartfelt thanks to our volunteers who have made all this possible – and much more besides.

Randell McKay  
Group Scout Leader