



21st Romsey (Nursling & Rownhams) Scout Group



Just for a change I'll report on the activities in reverse order of age so, starting with Explorers (14 – 17 year-olds):

Well done to our two teams who took part in a tough map-reading / hiking event in the Chiltern hills, competing against 30 other Explorer Scout teams from the south-east of the country. Despite naming themselves "3 are lost" our team of boys (or, rather, young men) came in 7th and our "It girls" were 11th. To exercise their minds the Unit has also had a quiz evening and undertaken training in first-aid. New members are embarking on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, whilst many of the older ones have completed the Silver. It's great that we have an active Unit that can inspire the younger sections and provide practical help as Young Leaders.



The Scout section have also been practising map and compass work, with some of them putting it to use at the District Winter Camp, which incorporated the local competition. On another Troop evening they welcomed staff from Liberty's Owl, Raptor and Reptile Centre, along with four feathered friends, including a little owl (cute) and a peregrine falcon (majestic!).



Meanwhile the Cub packs have had active weekly programmes, including an evening at Flip-out. One evening the Phoenix pack welcomed Jean Beauchamp, who was recently awarded the MBE for her services to the community – particularly her contribution to Scouting in Romsey District. Teams from 21st also had chance to meet Cubs from around the District as they participated in a cooking challenge – photos of happy faces and cleared plates show they enjoyed the result of their endeavours.

Our youngest section, the Beavers (6 to 8 years) have been learning about care of animals, trying some knots and having craft activities. To coincide with the start of the Winter Paralympics one Colony spent an evening on disability awareness: making a sandwich whilst blindfolded was fun but messy, whilst seeing videos of the incredible achievements of disabled athletes and musicians caused us to re-evaluate our approach to disability.

Finally thank you to all who helped at, or otherwise supported our jumble sale, when £244 was raised to further the Group's activities.

Randell McKay
Group Scout Leader