



21st Romsey (Nursling & Rownhams) Scout Group



While the young people were on their Easter break the section leaders were busy planning forthcoming camps and exciting programmes for the summer term. Others, like me, were joining colleagues from around Romsey District to put together the District's strategic plan for then next four years so.

Most sections eased themselves into the new term with a "welcome back" evening, during which new members were introduced and the teams (lodges / sixes) were reorganised, but Taurus Cub Pack and the Scout Troop launched straight in with off-site meetings:



The Cubs spent an interesting evening at the Solent Sky Museum, finding out more about the history of aviation in Southampton – including, of course, the Spitfire and the Sandringham flying boat. They were permitted to sit in the cabin of the latter, imagining themselves back in the late 1940's, flying off to the Far East. However my grandson seemed particularly taken with the Sea Vixen, with its folding wings, designed to suit the confines of an aircraft carrier.

Meanwhile, as part of their World Faiths badge, the Scouts visited the synagogue, learning about the Jewish traditions and religion.

The following week the Phoenix Pack participated in a murder mystery trail, a thinly disguised excuse for an exploratory walk around Romsey, visiting the key landmarks – perhaps the most important one being the chippy at the end of the evening! The Beaver sections and the Phoenix Cub Pack held a joint meeting, exploring and playing wide-games in the woods at Lordswood.

Back at the HQ all have continued the regular programme of games, working towards badges and Scouting skills: the Explorers led an evening of bucket-head bearings with the Scouts. "What?!" you may well ask. Basically, the Scouts are set to walk a compass bearing, but with a bucket over their heads so that all they can see is the ground at their feet and the compass in their hands. With no external reference point, and without a compass, most people would deviate from the course owing to natural right or left bias. This exercise teaches the Scouts to trust the instrument should they be hiking and caught in a fog, for example.

Although the N&R May Fair was cancelled, I'm pleased to say that we will have some stalls at the Rownhams School fair on 29th June, so I may see you there.

Randell McKay
Group Scout Leader