



21st Romsey (Nursling & Rownhams) Scout Group



Whilst most of the country was beginning to worry about reports of a new viral illness that had emerged in China, the big event for 66 Cubs from Romsey District was a trip to Disneyland Paris. Although the opportunity for Scouting adventures abroad is a regular occurrence for our older age groups, this was the first time that our District had organised an overseas trip for Cubs. 21st made up nearly half the contingent. I'll let Sam, who at 7 years old was one of the youngest, take up the story:

"I really enjoyed the Cub trip to Paris despite the very early mornings involved, which didn't hamper the enthusiastic singing on the coach. The weather was cold but mostly dry, unlike the UK at this point. We stayed in small dormitories and enjoyed making new friends.

"My favourite ride was the RC car, a kind of giant swing based on a character from Toy Story. Others enjoyed the Tower of Terror and Hyperspace Mountain rides.

Surprisingly nobody was actually sick! We all loved the fireworks, and the parade of many Disney characters.

"We came back very happy, but incredibly sleepy"



Can I join with all the parents in registering my thanks and admiration for the leaders who were involved. Whilst the photos showed that they also enjoyed the rides, taking other people's children abroad is a huge responsibility and required a lot of organisation.

Much closer to home about a dozen of our Scouts also participated in a District event – the annual winter camp.



As usual the weekly section meetings involved a wide variety of activities ranging from craft activities (Beavers), to a walk around historic Southampton (Cubs), to map bingo (Scouts). Most of the sections found time for pancakes to be part of the programme. For older ones it was a chance to practise with the stoves that they will be using at camp; for younger ones it was a case of decorating the pancakes with as many sticky toppings they could find. Perhaps appropriately one Beaver Colony arranged for the next session to be on care of your teeth!

Behind the scenes our Executive Committee has also been active, arranging for completion of the next phase of our energy-efficiency drive. Our old hot-water tank, with its immersion heater that was on 24/7, has been replaced with a modern, smaller unit that can be programmed to supply hot water only when needed. The final phase, if/when we can afford it, is to improve the insulation of the hall, potentially with a suspended ceiling across part of it.

Randell McKay
Group Scout Leader