

WOODSMOKE *scouts* be prepared . . .

The Newsletter for Romsey District Scouting

Edition 461

<http://www.romsey-scouts.org.uk>

Mar 2008

ROMSEY DISTRICT SCOUTS SUPPORTERS CLUB



Are you a member?
£1 per month
Great prizes
(better odds than the lottery)
Information from:
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WOODSMOKE

Articles for the next edition to Liz Holloway by **15th Mar 2008** please.
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Further information on any aspect of Romsey Scouting from
District Chairman: John Stevens 023 8077 2973
District Commissioner: Darren Reed 023 8042 8244

Romsey Scout Supporters Club 2007 Winners

Month	Prize	Amount	Number	Winner
Jan	1st	£20	49	Mr and Mrs KR Meader
Jan	2nd	£11	65	10th Romsey Scout Group
Jan	3rd	£7	34	Mr H Chandler
Feb	1st	£20	73	Mrs S Newbitt
Feb	2nd	£11	49	Mr and Mrs KR Meader
Feb	3rd	£7	101	Mr P Bourne
Mar	1st	£20	31	Mr M Richardson
Mar	2nd	£11	102	Mr J Brooks
Mar	3rd	£7	75	Mrs V. Tubb
Apr	1st	£20	19	Mrs V. Slater
Apr	2nd	£11	42	Mrs A Evans
Apr	3rd	£7	38	Mr R Oliver
May	1st	£167	8	Mr and Mrs P Betteridge
May	2nd	£54	41	10th Romsey Monday Cubs
June	1st	£20	64	Mr S Buswell
June	2nd	£11	58	Mr J Mason
June	3rd	£7	99	Mrs D Savage
July	1st	£20	7	Mr RG Genge
July	2nd	£11	75	Mrs V. Tubb
July	3rd	£7	8	Mr and Mrs P Betteridge
Aug	1st	£20	28	Mr I Moore
Aug	2nd	£11	9	Mr Blake
Aug	3rd	£7	46	Mrs A Little
Sept	1st	£20	48	Mrs K Pethick
Sept	2nd	£11	1	Mr R Simpson
Sept	3rd	£7	98	Ms C Sutton
Oct	1st	£20	26	Mr and Mrs P Pearl
Oct	2nd	£11	65	10th Romsey Scout Group
Oct	3rd	£7	66	10th Romsey Scout Group
Nov	1st	£167	75	Mrs V. Tubb
Nov	2nd	£54	50	Mrs A Oliver
Dec	1st	£20	5	Captain AS Hands
Dec	2nd	£11	8	Mr and Mrs P Betteridge
Dec	3rd	£7	56	Mr M Cardy

SUPPORTERS CLUB 2008.....

A new scale of prizes has been introduced, so from January 2008, for 11 months of the year, prizes of £25 and £15 will be paid to the 2 winners and a jackpot in June, with prizes of £250 and £125.



3rd ROMSEY Scouts A TASTE OF THEIR SCOUTING

ROCK CLIMBING

The rock climbing was a fun event for the whole Scout Troop. It was at Ferny Crofts in the New Forest and there were plenty of other activities but rock climbing was the thing chosen! The tower had 4 sides to it, each side getting harder and harder. Lots of people got to the very top.

Millie

H007

H007 was a celebration of 100 years of Scouting. It was an amazing experience and on the Wednesday there was a huge party. On the Friday we went Dragon boating in a place called Eaton. It was the first day that our Scouts had a shower! Even though we lost the race we had great fun and got an article in the Romsey Advertiser. On the other days we did lots of different activities like cooking and ringos. It was a great experience.

Mhairi & Mia

WHAT WE LIKE ABOUT SCOUTS

I enjoying being at Scouts because everyone is kind, friendly and funny and that includes the Leaders. I also enjoy it because I have made friends very easily and I feel secure. I enjoy the activities most because they are really enjoyable and exciting. I like the Leaders because when I came to Scouts for the first time they were welcoming and friendly.

Will

I have enjoyed making friends easily and having fun games inside and out. Every week has been enjoyable and fun! The Leaders are also very friendly and funny, and they always have fun things to do.

Ellie

WINTER CAMP 2008

This year Winter Camp was amazing. The activities were cooking, camp

building, pioneering, golf, circus skills and archery. After all this fun we had a wide game with the Explorers. We had 2 teams called Strings and Cables, you ran around the field trying to find the opposing team. On Sunday we had the Sextant Trophy orienteering competition, there were 16 points and we only got 3!

Cookie, Ben, Bertie, Izzy & Lizzy

WIDE GAMES

Wide games are probably the best thing ever about Scouts. Everyone loves to run away from Tris all the time and in our case run towards him!

What is a wide game? A wide game is when we all go out into the field and go and look for items in the bushes and trees while trying to evade capture by Ruth & Tris.

Why do we love wide games? We love the fact that we get insanely muddy and we love the adrenaline of running from the catcher.

Andrew, Luke & Jordan

DIGGERS' DAY 2007

Diggers Day 2007 was land based. There were lots of activities to do including rock climbing, rifle shooting, leap of faith, high wire, and assault course. It was great fun. On the assault course we get very muddy. The food was good. The best bit was the assault course because it was fun, tiring and we got VERY muddy!



Helena & Ben

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## **4th ROMSEY Cubs & Beavers**

### **Raising Money for ~Romsey Opportunity Group**

It was the most glorious morning on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February when a group of Beavers and Cubs all from 4<sup>th</sup> joined with their parents and dogs to go for a walk in Boldrewood. We chose the two-mile walk which offered plenty of opportunities for climbing tree trunks, leaping over ditches and generally having a great time. We finished the event by having hot brew and a biscuit in the car park. In this event alone we raised £29 and when added to the proceeds for the film night, which was also a joint event with the cubs, we actually raised a total of £115.42. Well done to Bramshaw





## NEWS FROM EXPORERS

On the Explorer front there is loads of recent and future activity. We have held 2 joint District Explorer events since I wrote last. Before Christmas a joint night with network at Playzone, Havant which is a joint ball pool and fun centre organised by the Crusaders Explorer Unit. Last week we had a drumming evening around the campfire organised by Tomahawks. So if you were around Woodley on Monday night and thought we had been invaded, sorry you were mistaken.

Coming up we have a trip to the Brecon Beacons at the end of March, staying in a good bunkhouse near the Black Mountain. Activities will include mountain walking, rock climbing and caving. More explorers than last year are going this year which is great.



The Suisse 2009 trip for August 2009 is proving very popular with currently 31 Explorers and future Explorers signed up. One parent, whose son went last time we organised our own Romsey trip 1½ years ago, says he is still talking now about what a great time he had. His younger sister is going on the next trip. I can vouch for the fact that Kandersteg International Scout Centre is a fabulous place and I cannot wait to go back again.

Numbers in all 4 Explorer units are looking very strong and this is a credit to the Explorer leader team, so well done.

It was great for the Explorer leaders to be asked to help out again at the Romsey District Scout Winter camp, as I believe strong links between Explorer and Scout sections are essential to maintain the good progression we have. One of the things that impresses me about all Romsey District events as a relative newcomer is the strong team work and camaraderie between the leaders and other supporters.

Long may it continue.

*Robin Taylor-Milton DESC*

## **DIGGERS' DAY 2008**

**Scouts/Guides/Leaders**

**KEEP THE DATE FREE**

**Saturday 4 Oct to the morning of Sunday 5 Oct 2008!**

**Diggers' Day 2008** will be an aviation themed activity day culminating in a **Search and Rescue Wide Game / Incident Hike** within the secure boundaries of the chosen site.

Scout and Guide participants will have the opportunity to undertake a wide variety of aviation related activities:

These are some of the activities we are hoping to run:

**Hovercrafting,**

**Model Flying,**

**Flight Simulator,**

**Kites,**

**Hot Air Balloon Flying,**

**Mini Red Bull Air Race,**

**Model Making and Flying,**

**Mini Assault Course**

**Plus a variety of Mental and Physical team building challenges with an aviation twist**

If you know anyone in the District who would be able to help and/or has expertise in this area or you know of any useful contacts could you please contact:

Sarah Beaman,  
District Scout Leader  
(sarahdiddy@  
thebeamans.freemove.co.uk).

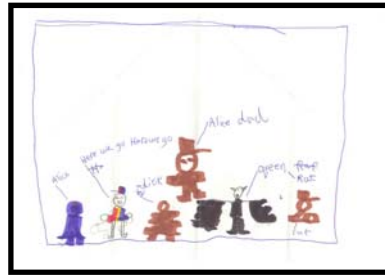


More information to follow to Scout Troops/  
Guide Companies in due course.

Maple Beavers of 10th Romsey thoroughly enjoyed the Group visit to the pantomime at the Plaza,. Here are some of their pictures of Dick Whittington, and especially the rats.



↑ Queen Rat by Max aged 6



↑ Rats in the Panto  
By Michael (aged 6)



← The Plaza Theatre  
by Charlie (aged 7)

Ross (aged 7) →



**THINGS I LIKE BEST  
BY MAPLE COLONY BEAVERS**

Jabba the Hut  
By Henry (aged 6)

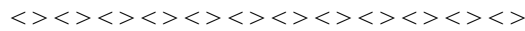
←



Playing games at Beavers  
Nathan (aged 6)



Thomas (aged 7)



### ROMSEY CUBS ARE FIRST TO CELEBRATE THE DISTRICT CENTENARY

More than 120 Cub Scouts, from every pack in the District celebrated our centenary in style at the Crosfield Hall on the 19th January. There were games plus a disco and traditional party fare, although one Cub was disappointed that all the crisps provided were by Walkers, and he doesn't like them! We had TWO birthday cakes—one might not have been large enough—which were ceremonially cut by the 2 youngest Cubs present and the 2 adults, who had been invested soooo... long ago (Andy Webb & Steve Woodrow). There was also a presentation to Liz Holloway, for helping with catering for the Cubs at H007—which had been the highlight of 2007 for her. Our centenary year has got off to a flying start.



## From the Vice President.....

Every year a competition is held among schools called Youth Speaks, and it is designed to find the best team of young speakers in the country. I was fortunate to see a video of the national final and I was amazed at the ability and self-confidence of the two teams that competed for the final winning position. The winning team took as their subject "Is it ever right to tell lies?". I have recently had reason to reconsider my views on this.

When I started Scouting we had to learn 10 laws, not seven as today, and the first one was "A Scout is to be trusted". I have always tried to live up to that. On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2008 I had a very pleasant surprise which I would not have had if it had not been for a degree of subtle lying on the part of the District Treasurer, aided and abetted by my wife.

I was told that Kay and I had been invited to Graham's house for dinner that Saturday night. This sounded like a



pleasant evening in prospect, until I received the additional message that I should "come smart". How did he expect me to turn out for dinner? I collared him one evening in advance and joked about the situation. Who else was coming to dinner to demand these standards? Graham said the vicar was also coming and since he would be restricted by his dog collar perhaps we should also wear collar

and tie. It sounded plausible at the time so I went happily along with it.

When the appointed evening finally arrived we duly presented ourselves at Graham's house to be told there was a change of plan. The vicar had prepared a PowerPoint presentation promoting his church and he wanted to try it



out on a few friends to get suggestions for improvement. We were therefore going to Wellow Golf Club for a viewing with others, and we would then go on to the vicar's house for supper. Graham even showed me pictures of the church and again it seemed an entirely credible story. Imagine therefore my surprise when we walked into

Wellow Golf Club and I found all my Scouting friends sat down ready for dinner and applauding my entrance. To say I was gobsmacked is an under-statement. Someone had thought it would be a great idea to have a dinner to mark my retirement as District Chairman and it seems everyone knew except me! Without the lies I would not have had such a wonderful surprise.

I had a lovely evening among so many friends, and Graham is fully forgiven for his mendacity.

Thank you to all those people who organised my 'surprise', and to all the others who helped to keep the secret. Your efforts were well worth it.

David Sutton  
Vice President

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## CHALLENGING CUBS

Congratulations to 10th Romsey Sioux Cub Pack, for being the first Cubs to complete the DCs challenge. Congratulations also to Ryan and Martyn, the leaders, who encouraged them to do so. The badges are on their way.



## BARN DANCE FUN

On 16<sup>th</sup> February the Crosfield Hall throbbed to the rhythmic beat of band 'Pogles Wood' as anyone who was anyone turned out for the annual barn dance in support of Scouting in Romsey. The Mayor of Test Valley and the Deputy Mayor of Romsey were also in attendance and enjoyed a social occasion without formalities where they could simply have a good time.



The hall was transformed for the event by the Cubs of the district who made pictures and scarecrows which were placed all round the hall. Simon Daw did the calling to great effect and soon had everyone into line and performing dances with much energy and amusement.

The District Fellowship Team, the Musketeers were on hand, both to join in the dancing and also to run a bar which kept busy all evening as dancers tried to replace the liquid they worked off on the floor!

A break half-way through the evening was the opportunity for Kay Sutton and her team of willing ladies to serve an excellent ploughman's supper, and a chance to get one's breath back for the second half. Quite a few people had such a good time that they asked when we would run the next one, and the date will be 21<sup>st</sup> February 2009. Get it in your diary now to avoid disappointment!"

*Claire Sutton, DDC*

## District Diary Dates

### March

|           |                  |      |                |
|-----------|------------------|------|----------------|
| Tues 18th | Training drop in | 7 pm | 10th H.O.      |
| W/e 28/30 | Explorer Trip    |      | Brecon Beacons |

### April

|          |                                  |     |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----|
| Sat 5th  | County MDU in Romsey Town Centre |     |
| Sun 27th | St George's Day                  |     |
| Wed 30th | All Leaders Meeting              | TBC |

### May

|             |                                   |          |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Wed 7th     | Mod 1 Training Drop In            | 4th H.O. |
| Thur 15th   | District Exec                     |          |
| W/e 23/26th | District Centenary Camp           |          |
| Sun 25th    | Beaver day visit to District Camp |          |

### June

|         |                                  |  |
|---------|----------------------------------|--|
| Sat 7th | County MDU in Romsey Town Centre |  |
|---------|----------------------------------|--|

### July

|         |                 |  |
|---------|-----------------|--|
| Fri 4th | District A.G.M. |  |
|---------|-----------------|--|

## Walk into money!



Four Groups took advantage of the 'Walk the Test Way' fund-raising opportunity last October and between them they raised £1940 for Scouting in their Groups. The whole event is organised by Rotary so there is no work to do, just get sponsored and get out there and walk.

Full details can be found on the internet at [www.walkthetestway.co.uk](http://www.walkthetestway.co.uk) and this year's fund-raising opportunity will be on 12<sup>th</sup> October. You can choose how far you walk; anything from 2 ½ miles upwards. Just think, if 20 people connected with your Group took part and each got £100 sponsorship you would raise £2000! And what if the whole Group made it a day out. It is a wonder more don't join in! Get it in your plans for this year