

WOODSMOKE

The Newsletter for Romsey District Scouting

Edition 479

www.romseyscouts.org

February 2010

You are invited to the Founder's Day Scouts Own

to be held at Winter Camp by 3rd Romsey. It will be held on Saturday, 20 February 2010 at Pinsent Camp Site, Winchester.



We will meet up there at the camp fire at about 7.30pm ready for a 7.45pm start. There will be hot chocolate and cake afterwards!

Everyone welcome, please let Sarah Beaman know if you are going to attend to help with catering.

Contact Sarah Beaman on

023 8081 4295 or

sarahdiddy@thebeamans.freeserve.co.uk

How many of us can say we've had our photo taken with Baden-Powell?

Young Alexia Cross, a Beaver from Bramshaw, clearly can!

Alexia came across B-P at Madame Tussauds in Washington DC whilst on a family holiday over Christmas.

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Articles for the next edition to Liz Holloway by **15 February** please.

18 Cherville Street, Romsey, SO51 8FD

Tel: 01794 514597 E Mail: liz@lizholloway.f2s.com

Further information on any aspect of Romsey Scouting from

District Chairman: John Stevens 023 8077 2973

District Commissioner: Darren Reed 023 8042 8244

A very happy year to everyone from the Romsey District Explorers Scouts!

We look forward to another other exciting year. We currently have the following 6 Explorer units: Apaches (Wellow), Crusaders (Baddesley), Draco (Nursling & Rownhams), Lockerley, Romsey town at 1st and Tomahawks (Woodley). Each unit has its own programme, as well as the joint district programme involving all of the units. Joint activities planned include a weekend trip to the Brecon Beacon's in March for mountain walking and quad bikes. We hope the Network will be able to organise for us a night hike, which we hope to invite older scouts along to. On the social front we are planning a trip to Playzone at Portsmouth; I know this sounds like a Beaver trip, but you would be surprised how many of those kind of activities the Explorers enjoy!

In April we plan to take a district contingent to the Hampshire Explorer camp at Ferny Crofts which proved to be a very successful event last year. Also on the cards is a possible winter Explorer trip to Kandersteg for late 2010. Having seen the site and area in the summer, we thought for a change it would be great to see it in the winter and get involved in some of their winter activities. For the summer we already have planned an Explorer raft building and racing event. This is an event we have run for a number of years and proves to be a huge success involving the Explorers getting thoroughly wet and lots of raft piracy! Again for the summer we are hoping to get a weekend trip on a large sailing boat. DoE activity will carry on as usual with a training weekend and expeditions at bronze, silver and gold level.

Two of our units, Apaches (Wellow) and Romsey town are experiencing difficulty with low numbers. Really for a unit to be viable in the long-term I reckon you need at least 15 explorers. This means if a few are unable to turn up on some weeks you still have a viable number to run a programme. The nature of young peoples social activities at this age often means they're not necessarily able to attend every activity. In both these units we need to have an intensive campaign to recruit more members from outside the movement. Both units have a very strong and committed leader team and an exciting programme. We just need to get the message out what fun and excitement can be had at Explorers! Other Explorer units in the district have been relatively successful at recruiting members from outside the movement, which has mainly been by Explorers bringing their friends along.

Robin-Taylor-Milton

Romsey District Explorer Scout Commissioner



Cubs Guard of Honour

Cubs from 10th Romsey Sioux Pack were called in to provide the Honour Guard when one of their leaders, Phil Coles, got married on 6th December. Phil and new wife Amy were met by the District Cub and Network flags as they emerged from the Abbey United Reformed Church. Rev Terry Hinks officiated at the wedding and fellow Cub Leader, Rob Link, stood up as Bestman.

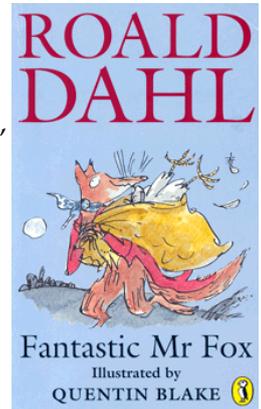
District Scrapheap Challenge

A wonderful time was had by the Cub packs who took part in this annual event held at 10th Woodley & Crampmoor HQ. Packs from 4th Bramshaw, 6th Lockerley, 10th Woodley Mohican and Sioux, 11th Kings Somborne and 21st Nursling & Rownhams were represented.

After inspection, Janice Waterman (ADC Cubs) read the story of "The Fantastic Mr Fox". Then each Pack had two hours to design and build their model, based on the story. There was Tuck halfway through for Cubs and leaders. All materials to make the model were supplied by District.

Judge Any 'Chezzer' Cherrett certainly had a difficult job in selecting a winner. With teamwork, design and construction all taken into account, Andy awarded 4th Bramshaw as winners with their Hen House (complete with hens!). Janice congratulated all the Cubs who took part and also the leaders who set up and cleared away, cleaning paint and glue, leaving the Scout hall as we had found it—we hope!

Jackie Betteridge



Scouters brave the winter weather—to walk to the pub for lunch!

It was raining on the morning of Wednesday 30th December and new lakes had appeared across the New Forest. While wise folk stayed warm and dry indoors, who were the group of people who began arriving at Cadman's Pond car park near Stoney Cross? 10th Romsey Scouters, their partners and a Brownie Guider from London!



Having donned waterproofs and boots they set off following Dave Slater and Mike Phillips of Crusoe Scout Troop. The route was along a path-way which arrived, very conveniently at lunchtime, at a hostelry in Linwood. An hour later, replete with baguette, burger or home-made soup (all to be recommended) they set off again on a roundabout route arriving back at the car park about 3pm.

Although very wet under foot, the heavy rain held off. All agreed it had been an enjoyable, sociable occasion and thanked Dave for organising the day. We now look forward to this year's walk - in drier weather we hope!!

Sue Edwards

District Diary Dates

February

Tue 2nd	District Explorer Meeting	7.45 T.B.C.
Sat 6th	District Strategy Day	
Wed 17th	All Leaders Meeting	6th H.Q.
Thur 18th	Scout Exec	7.45 15th H.Q.
Sat 20th	Founders Celebration	7.30 Pincents Campsite
Sun 21st	Guide's Thinking Day Service	3.00 Romsey Abbey
Sat 27th	Beaver Party	2.00 Crosfield Hall
Sat 27th	Barn Dance	7.30 Crosfield Hall

B a r n D a n c e

Saturday 27 February at the Crosfield Hall
8pm to 11.30pm (doors open at 7.30pm)
Cost £10 and supper included.

Licensed bar (so only alcoholic drinks bought on the premises may be consumed)

Dancing to Pogles Wood. Instruction provided for those who can't dance!

Tickets from David Sutton on
01794 502817



E v e r y o n e
w e l c o m e !

Quiz Night!

Lockerley Guides are fundraising to attend an international camp in the grounds of Harewood house near Leeds to mark the Centenary of Girl Guiding this year. Come along to their Quiz to support the cause!

Saturday 27th March - Lockerley Village Hall - 7pm - £10 per person

Tickets or further details from: judithhoughton@yahoo.co.uk