

The Newsletter for Romsey District Scouting

Edition 493

<http://www.romseyscouts.org/>

June 2011

Come to a

CREAM TEA

In the delightful garden of
Dr Peter's former home

SATURDAY 11TH JUNE

3pm—5pm

Delicious homemade cream tea and other yummy
home baking, unlimited tea and coffee

£5 per person (£1 children)

All proceeds towards the new Dr Peter Centre

Tickets available on arrival
Linden House, Linden road, Romsey

WOODSMOKE

Articles for the next edition to Liz Holloway by **15th Jun 2011** 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

TRUST RECEIVES COLLECTION

Nearly £600 was collected by the Scouts (including Beavers and Cubs) and Guides (including Rainbows and Brownies) during their St George's Day service on 10th April. George's mother, Jane, runs the Beaver Colony at 1st Romsey, and while their new headquarters are being built in Baden Powell Way, 1st Romsey Beavers are meeting at 10th Romsey headquarters at Woodley. The cheque for £585.07 was therefore presented to Jane, after her Beaver meeting and prior to 10th Romsey Cubs (Mohican Pack) starting theirs. The picture shows Jane, with the cheque



and a group of the young people. The lead groups from the Scouts and Guides also provided the tea and the sale of surplus cakes resulted in a further £10 being raised for the charity.

The next major fund-raising effort for the Trust, which is now run by a group of

Trustees, will be a family fun day at the Sports Centre in Romsey on 30th May. This will be a day, starting at 10.30, the highlight of which will be the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment (The Tigers) literally dropping into the arena, by parachute, at about 3 pm. There will be many other attractions for the whole family to enjoy and entry will be free.

< > < > < > < > < > < > < > < > < > < >

WELCOME

To the following new leaders:

Graham Knight	ACSL	15th Romsey (N Baddesley)
Andrew Bravery	ASL	6th Romsey (Lockerley)

We hope you enjoy your Scouting experience with Romsey District, and you find your time spent is worthwhile.

PULBOROUGH TROPHY

The County run a weekend camping competition every year. It is for Scouts, and they camp in a patrol, with between 4 and 6 members. Ideally, these will be members of a true patrol, but composite patrols are allowed, but penalised.

The camping is quite traditional, without many of the modern conveniences, although there are flush toilets on site—not



something I remember when camping as a Guide! The patrols are judged on everything. The uniform standard, (are the badges in the correct position etc) are the tents correctly erected, is the site laid out sensibly with appropriate

fire buckets, first aid equipment etc., is the food being correctly stored? Will the menus provide well-balanced, nourishing meals and will everyone have enough to eat?

They will have a special project to complete, which they know about in advance and will be judged. They have to show that they work well as a team, with all members of the patrol being equally involved. A team of judges will work with the youngsters and all will learn from the experience.

The Pulborough is the district eliminator for the County competition, and the youngsters will learn as much from this, **even if they don't win through to the County Emlyn. If they don't win this year, they may well next. It's a very worthwhile** exercise and youngsters develop their team working skills, which are so useful to them throughout their lives.

Thoughts from a Pulborough Judge

At the last year's Pulborough, Mel Baxter and I were tasked the job of marking site layouts; an important aspect of the competition with 100 potentially easy points at stake. At that year's camp no one got less than 50 points and some came near to full marks but it was noticeable that lots of patrols made the same "errors" and lost valuable points.

I thought it might be helpful if I listed the five most common mistakes.

1. The position of the tentage; most patrols seem afraid to pitch their tent on the edges of their site and in the corners which would maximise the usable space in the middle of their pitch. Indeed some tents and dining shelters look like they had just landed from outer space!
2. A defined entrance to the site; very few patrols had a gate or specific entrance to their site. Having one, restricts access and helps people safely navigate around the camp, helping minimise the risk of tripping over guy ropes.
3. Location of tent doors; Some of the patrols that were using non **ridge tents still pitched their tents “narrow side” to the front** when the door was on the long side. This meant that guy ropes had to be climbed over when getting in and out of the tent with the risk of tripping and damaging the tent and the Scout.
4. Positioning the fire; To minimise the risk of spilling hot liquids, the fire should be fairly close to the dining shelter. To make for a more efficient system the wood pile should be next to the fire and the chopping area next to the wood pile with the entrance facing the wood pile.
5. **Position of Dining Shelter; most of the “flat roofed” dining shelters were pitched facing east to west.** The wind for most of the Saturday was coming from the north and so the wind was **blowing through the shelters. However the “tents without sides”** shelters were pitched with the sides facing into the prevailing wind. So spending time considering the main wind direction pays dividends.

So I hope that you have found these comments and observations **useful. Don't forget that before pitching your site to check that it is clear of litter, judges will not accept that the litter was there before you arrived.** The competition has been lost at the very last minute through large amounts of rubbish being found on site.

Good luck and enjoy what is a very hard working, but enjoyable week-end..

John Stevens, District Chairman.

The V-P is still learning!

Watching the creation of the new Dr Peter Centre on the site of the old building of 1st Romsey has proved to be a fascinating experience. Being retired, and therefore assumed to be more available than most others, I was designated as the link man between Scouting and the builder, with the result that I have been on the site every week, generally more than once, to check on progress and to discuss amendments and alterations which crop up from time to time.



Seeing the building grow before my eyes has brought home to me in a way that nothing else probably would, quite how much material goes into erecting

something of this size. I understand from the builder that they have laid approximately six thousand blocks and about eleven thousand bricks. If all the timber involved in the structure was laid end to end it would cause a terrible obstruction! It would also reach to the scout headquarters in Nursling, which is a surprising fact.

One learns little details of the builders skill needed for this work. The framework is steel and in order to build the roof, timber joists have to be fixed to the steel so that the roof framework may be nailed into place. Just fixing the joists to the steel has involved about 600 bolts! Every joist has to be exactly positioned because all the rafters have notches cut in them to fit onto the joists, and if the joists were not exactly parallel they would not fit.

And despite all this the builder remains on schedule.

Keep watching.

David Sutton, Vice President

From the Archives

Woodsmoke May 1976

During the Remembrance Service and Parade in Romsey last year, the High Steward, Lord Mountbatten, suggested it might be appropriate for a Scout to carry the second Town Mace on civic occasions. I am pleased to say that after the normal 'committee process' the recommendation was approved by the Town Council. I then was pleased to invite any interested Scout to write to me. Together with Dr Peter Johnson, District Chairman, Assistant District Commissioner Gordon Garland and David Sutton, the interviews were carried out and the choice was made. I heartily congratulate the successful applicant, Patrol Leader Stephen Darke from the 27th Romsey (Totton) Group and look forward to seeing him carry out his first duty on 2nd May in Romsey during our St George's Day service and parade. We are most grateful to the High Steward for the magnificent idea and to the Mayor and Town Council for allowing us this marvellous opportunity enabling a Scout to be of service in such an honoured position. It is quite possible this is the only Scout Mace Bearer appointment in the whole country.

Ron Townsend, District Commissioner.

Interviews for the new Romsey Junior Mace Bearer have taken place and the successful applicant for 2011/12 is Matthew Tilley. His first role was on May 17th at Mayor-making in Romsey Town Hall.

This has been such a successful venture, that Test Valley have instituted a similar scheme

.....

HARDSHIP GRANTS

The camping season is upon us, and this is a reminder that the district holds funds which can be called upon to enable youngsters who are unable to participate in the opportunities Scouting presents thorough lack of financial resources. For further information please contact David Sutton on 01794 502817, Email: David@kernowhouse.com.

David is also the initial contact for anyone interested in **applying for a 'small grant' from the Supporter's Club Fund.**

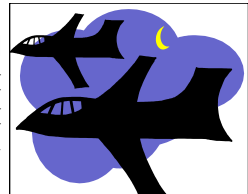
Report from Popham

Approximately 40 Scouts from Salisbury and Andover Air Scouts together with 7 Scouts from Romsey attended a very hot and blustery Popham Air Camp based at the Annual Microlight Trade Fair over the May Bank holiday. Our Scouts made up the Romsey Air Support Team - RAST.

Friday was dedicated to Scouts learning two-way radio and air marshalling skills, the phonetic alphabet (Romeo Oscar Mike Sierra Echo Yankee) and also familiarisation with the large Popham airfield which has two runways. In the evening, we celebrated the Royal Wedding with a big "Street Party" and lots of trifle.

Saturday proved to be the most intense day with thousands of people attending the event and many visiting aircraft landing and taking off. Our Scouts were involved in taking landing fees from aircraft, controlling the public crossing point on a very busy runway, aiding taxiing aircraft and helping out the many exhibitors at the Trade Fair. The aircraft ranged from tiny paragliders to the Russian AN-2, the biggest single engined biplane ever made. The scouts delighted in standing behind it and leaning over at 45 degrees when the engine was on !

Much the same on Sunday but a little less intense and the cloudier weather allowed half of the Scout contingent to get away to a much deserved swim at Andover Pool where they also fine tuned their spring-board techniques.



On Monday, hundreds of classic cars and motorcycles arrived for the Classic Vehicle Rally and you could buy every piece of car junk imaginable. Scouts helped to control the traffic flow to maintain public safety on a sweltering hot day.

Scout-organised discos, film-shows and X- Factor style talent contests in the evenings made sure all the Scouts had a good nights' sleep for the next day. The Time Warp and The Lumberjack song is passed on to yet another generation.

The feed back from the Popham Airfield management was that the Scouts did a "Spot On" job even though we were very stretched especially on the Saturday. We have been invited back next year with a larger contingent. Consequently, the RAST allocation has been increased to 15 Scouts for next year. Well done Romsey Scouts !

Rob Komorowski

District Diary Dates

June

Fri 3rd	21st A.G.M..		21st H.Q.
Thur 9th	District Man Mtg	19.45—22.00	18 Cherville St.
Thur 9th	County Review & AGM		The Castle, Winch.
w/e 10/12th	Leaders/Adults Camp		6th H.Q.
Sat 11th	County Workshop	09.30—16.30	10th H.Q.
Sat 11th	Cream Tea in Linden Hse Gdn	15.00—17.00	Linden Road Rsy.
Thur 16th	11th A.G.M.	19.30.....	11th H.Q.
w/e 17/19th	Pulborough Trophy		Lyons Copse
Thur 23rd	Explorer Rafting	19.00—21.00	Wellow
Sat 25th	Abbey Clean & Polish then Picnic	10.00—12.00 12.00.....	Romsey Abbey Memorial Park
Sat 25th	Ferny Crofts Open Day		
Tues 28th	Mod 1 Training		tbc

July

Fri 1st	Concert George's Trust		Memorial Park, Rsy
w/e 1-3rd	Rifle Shooting leadership training		Ferny Crofts
w/e 1-3rd	Trek Cart		QE Country Park
Sun 3rd	Mayor's Picnic	12.00...	Memorial Park
Fri 8th	District A.G.M.	19.30...	O.S.
Sat 9th	Beggars Fair		Romsey
Thur 14th	Exp. - Pushball	19.00—21.30	Lockerley
Mon 18th	10th A.G.M.	20.15....	10th H.Q.
Sat 23rd	Beaver Fun Day		Lockerley H.Q.

COME CLEANING!

We are spring cleaning the Abbey a little later this year. It's going to be on 25th June, between 10 am and Noon. Any member of the movement, who wants to get involved, can. Please turn up in your uniform, all dusters, polish etc will be provided, but you need to bring your own elbow grease! Safety equipment will also be available for the older members, who may have the opportunity to clean high in the upper reaches of the building. The views should be spectacular!

There will be the opportunity to take your packed lunch down to the Memorial Park, with your leaders, and parents can collect you from there at 1pm.