

Squirrels

BEAVERS

cubs

SCOUTS



Scouts

21st Romsey
(Nursling & Rownhams)
Scout Group

Information & Welcome Pack



EXPLORERS

Welcome

If you are reading this it probably means that you, or your child, are interested in joining about 38 *million* others from around the world in the fun, friendship and adventure of Scouting.

This booklet will give you some basic information about the organisation and, more specifically, our Group. As it's a fairly lengthy document I hope that you will be able to use it as a reference source, dipping-in to what is of interest and relevant to you. Should you need to know more please don't hesitate to ask one of the leaders, or look at www.scouts.org.uk/parents .

Cam Beale
Group Scout Leader
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The aims

The official purpose of Scouting is “to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society”. Rather less grandly, it's to help the children grow up into confident, well-rounded adults, and to have fun whilst doing it!



Therefore we are aiming for more than simply getting the young people “off the streets”. This requires a structured programme, which is tailored to the age of the child. The Scout Law describes the attributes of a good Scout - loyalty, trustworthiness, friendliness, and respect for others, ourselves and our environment. When young people join us they make a promise, appropriate to their age, to do their best to live up to these ideals.

Further information can be found in: <http://members.scouts.org.uk/factsheets/FS140099.pdf>

Potted history of Scouting

As many of you will know, Scouting started when Robert Baden-Powell (B.P.) wrote a training manual of the survival skills he learnt as an officer in the Boer War. Although not written with them in mind, his book became popular with teenage boys who wanted to learn the skills of camping, tracking, map-reading and so on. In 1907 B.P. led an experimental camp of 20 boys on Brownsea Island, in Poole Harbour. This proved hugely successful and Scouting has since grown to approximately 38 million members, with representatives from practically every nation. From the early 1990's Scouting in the U.K. has been open to both boys and girls.

21st Romsey

We know that Scouting has been active in the Nursling & Rownhams area since 1913. Owing to lack of leaders there was a short break in the early 1960s, but the 21st was re-formed in 1963 and has been going strong ever since. Currently the Group has around 165 young people between the ages of 4 and 14, with a further 25 or so aged 14 to 18, who are members of the local Explorer Scout Unit, which is called Draco, after the constellation.

Our HQ is in Joe Bigwood Close, Nursling SO16 0YL (OS map ref: SU 378 163).



We can be recognised by the bright orange scarves, or neckerchiefs (necker), that form part of our uniform. On the point of our necker we wear the Group badge, as shown below. This was designed by one of our members in 2013 (our 50th or 100th anniversary, depending on when you wish to count from!).



It depicts the World Scout Membership badge (fleur-de-lys), flanked on the left by a hand making the Scout sign and on the right by a reef knot.

B.P. himself said that the fingers of the Scout sign remind the Scout of the three aspects of the Scout Promise: 1) duty to God and country 2) helping others and 3) obeying the Scout Law.

The reef knot, besides being a traditional and useful knot, also reminds us of the strong ties of friendship in Scouting, as does the hand-shake at the base of the triangle. The eagle-eyed among you will notice that it is the *left* hands that are being used – a Scouting tradition with a good, but perhaps apocryphal, story of its origin (<http://www.thescoutingpages.org.uk/handshake.html>).

Our website is www.21stromsey.co.uk . Besides information about recent and forthcoming events it also has appropriate “contact us” links should you require further information.

Romsey District

In Scouting terms we are part of Romsey District – a fairly large area stretching from us in the south to King’s Somborne in the north, and from North Baddesley to Bramshaw. Head of the District is the District Commissioner (D.C.), with Assistant District Commissioners supporting and co-ordinating the activities of specific sections.

From time to time sections will hold District events or competitions and, normally every 3 or 4 years, there is a District Camp when everyone, of all ages, has a chance to get together.

The District is also a resource for those activities that require specific qualifications – for example we (21st) are the leads for air-rifle shooting, whilst North Baddesley are leads for kayaking. The District H.Q. is shared with 1st Romsey Scout Group and has a climbing wall, which can be booked, with instructors if necessary.

The age groups – a journey of adventure

There are over 400,000 young people in Scouting in the UK, spread across five age ranges from the age of 6 to 25.

Section	Age range	Our Group meet on ...	Time
Squirrels	4 – 5	Acorn – Mondays	5:00pm – 6:00pm
		Wednesdays	5:00pm – 6:00pm
Beavers	6 – 8	River Colony: Tuesdays	5.00pm – 6.00pm
		Wood Colony: Thursdays	5.00pm – 6.00pm
Cubs	8 – 10½	Phoenix Pack: Tuesdays	6.30pm – 8.00pm
		Taurus Pack: Thursdays	6.15pm – 8.15pm
Scouts	10½ - 14	Atlantis - Wednesdays	6:30pm – 8:15pm
		Endeavour - Fridays	7.15pm – 9.00pm
Explorers	14 – 17	Mondays	8.15pm – 9.30pm
Network	18 - 25	Organised on a District basis – if you require further information please ask	

[Note: the Explorer section is also organised / managed on a District basis, so is not formally part of 21st Romsey Scout Group. However, since the Draco unit meet in our HQ and is composed largely of ex-21st Scouts, we regard them as our own. Indeed many of the Explorers are also *Young Leaders*, helping the 21st's adult leaders to run one of the other sections.]

More detailed information about each section is given in Appendix 2.

Uniform

Once your child is sure that they like Scouting you will need to get them a uniform. These can be ordered from any one of the following: Uniform Easy (<https://www.uniformeasy.com/21st-romsey-scouts>) or the national on-line Scout Shop (www.scouts.org.uk/shop), Oasis in Romsey, or Eastleigh Scout Shop (address and opening times at <http://www.eastleigh-scouts.org.uk/AboutUs/Page1.aspx>). Remember the necker you want is orange!

Don't worry too much about getting official Scout trousers. For Beavers and Cubs normal shorts or trousers will do; Scouts often wear dark blue or black combat-style trousers. We also have an informal uniform, specifically for the 21st, of a blue T-shirt bearing our Group badge. These are inexpensive and are used when we can be less formal and don't want to mess-up our best uniform. From time to time the Group will put in a bulk order, but individual ones can be ordered from Uniform Easy. Samples are available to test for size before purchase – please ask a leader.

The initial badges will be given to the child by the section leader as part of the investiture ceremony (which, by the way, you are welcome to attend). These badges include the purple World membership badge, the County/District badge, the Group badge and name tape, the section name tape and the badge or woggle signifying which team (lodge, six or patrol) the child belongs to.

The programme

Each age range has its own balanced programme of activities, tailored to the needs and interests of the children concerned, but all the programmes are based on the themes of *outdoor and adventure, world and skills*. They cover a huge range of activities, from outdoor and physical pursuits to community involvement, creative expression and learning about the wider world. Together these help the young people set and achieve goals and grow in confidence. The older they get, the more input young people themselves have in the programme of their section.

The principal badges are either *Challenge Awards* (hexagonal badges worn on the front of the uniform), or *Activity Badges* (round ones, worn on the sleeve). The Challenge Awards support the main themes of the programme, requiring the young person to take part in various activities to develop their knowledge and skills. The most prestigious award in each section is the Chief Scout's Award (Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum, depending on the age group), which demonstrates Scouting achievement at the highest level for the respective section.

The Activity Badges cover a wide range of interests and are often obtained by a young person working outside of their section – for example if they have a personal interest in anything from art to winter sports. The requirements of most Activity Badges are set with regard to the age group concerned, but some, such as musician and swimming, are staged badges, with levels that may be achieved in any section, depending on the individual's ability.

All the themes are delivered in a variety of interesting and challenging ways, however about half the time is centred on outdoor and adventure for, as Baden-Powell said, "Life without adventure would be deadly dull".

Having said that, Scouting makes safety a priority. Activities are risk-assessed and those with a higher degree of risk (anything from abseiling to watersports) require the leader(s) to be suitably qualified and authorised. Leaders of camps and similar events also need to hold the appropriate permit.

Further information about how we keep your child safe and sound in Scouting can be found at: <http://scouts.org.uk/what-we-do/child-protection> .



Our adult volunteers



Scouting is a voluntary organisation so, contrary to the belief of some, leaders are not paid, nor are we superhuman! All are ordinary people; most with a day-job and a home and family to support.

Not all work directly with the young people – just as important are those behind the scenes who help manage the Group, or deal with finance or administration, or raise money to ensure the uniformed leaders have sufficient resources. However, we all subscribe to the aims of Scouting and want to make a difference through it. In return Scouting helps the volunteers to get the most out of it by providing opportunities for adventure, training, fun and friendship. Over 90% of volunteers say that the skills and experiences they have in Scouting have been useful in their work or personal life.

The following are some of the types of people you may meet:

Uniformed leaders are responsible for running the programme in a section. They have accepted the Scout Law and made the Promise, and are required to undertake the leaders' training programme.

Section assistants are just that, they agree with the Leader how much, and what sort of thing they can contribute. Not everybody is happy to be up the front leading an activity: just as importantly we need adults to keep records, collect fees and listen to the children as individuals etc. Parents' rotas are one way of providing such help, but do not give the full, mutual benefit that comes from meeting the children frequently. If you are interested in helping regularly (and that does not necessarily mean every week) please speak to one of the uniformed leaders.

Skills instructors: almost any adult will have a skill which would be useful to teach to young people, whether it be cooking, computing, canoeing or carpentry. Let your section's leader know what you could do, perhaps just as a one-off training session for a small group of young people, or as an examiner for one of the many Activity Badges. For adventurous activities an assessment of your qualifications and competence may be required.

The **Group Scout Leader** (usually referred to as the GSL) and **Assistant Group Scout Leader** are responsible for managing and developing the Scout Group as a whole (Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts). There are also various District and County Commissioners who provide support at a wider level.

Behind the scenes the **Group Trustee Board** do sterling work to make sure that the Leaders have the resources that they need to run the programme. The Board is responsible for maintaining the Group's headquarters and securing funds to maintain and update equipment.

Helper is a recognised Group role in itself and covers anything that keeps the Group ticking over smoothly.

[Note: all adults with a regular role in Scouting are DBS checked, and are required to follow a code of good conduct (commonly known as the *yellow card*) when working with young people. Should you wish to read it a copy of the yellow card is displayed in the H.Q., or available on request from the GSL]

Keeping in contact

e-mail: Notices will generally be issued by email, sometimes backed-up by a paper copy. E-mails may be sent direct from On-line Scout Manager (OSM), which is the administration system. To avoid messages being classed as junk mail please add @onlinescoutmanager and @21stromsey.co.uk to the list of safe-senders in your email system. If necessary ask the section leader to send you a test e-mail.

Facebook: The Group has a closed Facebook group, only accessible to parents and leaders of 21st, plus a few Scouting contacts from Romsey District. To join the group search 21st Nursling and Rownhams; your request will then be vetted by the administrator. Similarly some sections also have their own Facebook group – ask the section leader.

Group website: The Group website is <http://21stromsey.co.uk> where you'll find useful information and links – too much to list here! In particular note the members' section, the calendar and news.

Fund-raising

To keep the cost to families down the Group runs a variety of fund-raising activities, such as:

- carol singing
- bag-packing (the young people offering to pack shopping at supermarkets)
- stalls at the Nursling & Rownhams village fair
- jumble sales
- beetle drives

We would very much appreciate your help in running these (and any others you can think of), so that we can keep the HQ and equipment in good order and continue to provide a full programme. Similarly, your support at HQ maintenance days (anything from hedge-clipping to minor repairs and spring-cleaning) would be welcome, in order to reduce expenditure on external contractors.

EasyFundraising: Many on-line retailers will donate a proportion (normally 1 to 3%) of their on-line income to a charity nominated by the purchaser. To learn more and benefit our Group in this way visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> and search for 21st Romsey Scout Group as the cause to support.

Gift Aid: If you are a UK tax payer the Group can claim from the government 25p for every pound you pay in membership fees. Information about how to enable this will be sent with the initial request for fee payment. Alternatively contact the Group Scout Leader.



Frequently asked questions

Here are the answers to some of the common questions that parents ask. Also see <http://scouts.org.uk/parents> .

Is there a waiting list?

Unfortunately the answer is probably yes, particularly for the Beaver section. Use the “joining enquiry contact us” button on our website to request the latest information. In 2015 we opened a second Beaver Colony to alleviate the pressure on places for that age group and, in 2016, did the same for Cubs. However demand continues to grow and we continually seek more assistant leaders to help us fulfil the need.

What does my child need to take part?

For the first few weeks, nothing – just normal clothes. The leader will simply need basic information in case they need to contact you. Once we know that the child likes Scouting the leader will make arrangements for them to be *invested*, when they will make the Promise and become a member. At that stage we will need some more information and you will need to obtain a uniform – see above.

Where do all these badges go?!

Go to <https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources> and follow the links on the left for the appropriate section.

Appendix 1 of this booklet shows the position of badges on a Beaver uniform – the other sections follow a similar pattern. Alternatively, don't be afraid to ask one of the uniformed leaders!

One thing to bear in mind is that some badges, particularly staged activity badges, are common throughout the sections, so should be transferred as the child moves up. Sewing those badges, rather than gluing, is recommended.

How much does it cost?

As it is run by volunteers, Scouting is one of the most affordable extra curricular activities for young people today.

The total cost per child is about £210 per year (2024 amount). This covers three areas:

- 1) The capitation fees levied to run Scouting at national, county and district levels. Together these constitute about 35% of the total.
- 2) The 21st Romsey Group fee, to help to cover the background costs of running the Group - such things as utility bills, insurance, purchase of major equipment and badges, and maintenance of equipment and the headquarters. This comes to about 40% of the total.
- 3) An amount to cover the week-to-week costs of running the section your child is in – such things as games equipment, cooking ingredients, craft materials, stationery and printing. This is about 25% of the total.

Details of the current fee and payment methods will be given to you when the time comes and are available in the members area of the Group website.

Specific events, such as day-trips and camps will normally be budgeted and charged for separately. Since we do not wish lack of funds to be a barrier to a child taking part there are some resources at Group and District level that are available to support cases of genuine need. Please discuss, in confidence, with your section leader if necessary.

Is my child insured?

The short answer is yes. All adults and children taking part in Scouting activities are insured through the national Scout Association; this also covers potential members, before they are invested. For details see <http://www.scoutinsurance.co.uk>.

Note that this does not cover personal belongings, such as those taken to camp – please ensure the child only takes what is necessary and that it is clearly labelled.

What happens when my child reaches the maximum age for their section?

The Group's leaders meet about twice a term and one of the standing items on the agenda is about who will be moving between sections in the next few months. The respective section leaders liaise to make the transition as smooth as possible, usually arranging it so that a few children can move up together. Often the children will attend the meetings of both sections for a few weeks until they are ready to be invested in the older group.

My child has a long-term illness or disability - can they join?

As far as possible we try to be inclusive, but it must be remembered that the leaders are volunteers and are unlikely to have any specific training in this area. Please discuss the child's needs with the leader of the section concerned and we will endeavour to find a solution. This may include enlisting help from more knowledgeable Scouting people at District or County level, or asking that you identify a carer who can attend the meetings / event with the child, or simply asking you for advice.

Do you have a religious affiliation?

The Group is *not* formally associated with any religious organisation though, geographically and demographically, we have some links with the local Church of England parish church, St John's.

There are Scouts in nearly every country of the world, with various cultures and religions. Scouting is available to people of all faiths as well as people who are humanist, atheist or have no affirmed faith. Similarly, people of other nationalities may live in the United Kingdom and become Scouts, yet retain allegiance to their own country.

To meet these circumstances, there are different versions of the Beaver Scout, Cub Scout and Scout Promise that can be used, allowing for the individual's obligations while upholding the essential spirit of the Promise. Please ask your section leader if you want to know more about the alternatives, otherwise we will assume that you are happy for us to use the standard one, which refers to "duty to God and to the Queen".

Will there be church parades?

Unless there is a very good reason that it is not possible, members of 21st Romsey are expected to attend two parades a year, both of which help to reinforce our place in the community:

- April: Parade to celebrate St George's day. This takes place in Romsey, with the service in the Abbey.
- November: Remembrance Sunday parade in St John's church Rownhams.

(By 'parade' I mean that we dress smartly and walk in a respectful fashion – we do not march in military style!)

Who do I bring a complaint or concern to?

Whilst things run smoothly and happily most of the time, the Scout Association does have a thorough complaints procedure: <http://scouts.org.uk/about-us/resolving-complaints> . In the first instance please discuss the situation informally with the leader of the section concerned. If you need to take it further, or wish to complain about a leader, please address it to the Group Scout Leader (e-mail gsl@21stromsey.co.uk). We would wish to deal with it in a positive and proactive manner, learning from it and implementing any necessary improvements.

Can I help

Let me think YES !!!! The Group can only be successful if we have adults willing to do the things that need to be done. If we didn't have them the activities would have to be reduced or, in the worst case we would have to close - as happened to this Group in the early 1960s.

If we have lots of people involved it avoids any individual being over-burdened, or taking on a job that doesn't really suit them just because someone has to do it. As mentioned previously, besides the obvious roles of helping with a section of young people, there are a lot of other roles that are necessary to keep the H.Q. in good order and the bills paid. Some of these take very little time or effort at all.

Appendix 3 of this booklet lists some of these and invites you to get involved. In return you'll have a warm glow of knowing that you are contributing the development of local young people and, not to be too melodramatic, a better world. You'll also have guaranteed fun and friendship, and (if you want it) opportunity to try some other things you might not otherwise do, such as abseiling, archery, camping, climbing, kayaking, shooting ...

Similarly, if you know someone who might be interested in helping us please let the Group Scout Leader know.

Is your HQ available for hire?

With certain restrictions, and depending on availability, yes. Indeed, hire of the HQ for children's birthday parties etc. is a useful source of income for the Group. To make an enquiry please use the appropriate contact us button on the Group's website.

Your question not here?

If you have any other questions do not hesitate to ask one of the uniformed section leaders, or the Group Scout Leader.

Appendix 1: Position of badges – Beavers

(other sections follow a similar pattern)



Appendix 2: Further information about the sections



Section Information: Squirrels

	Acorn Drey	Peanut Drey
Age range	4 to 6 years.	
Meeting day and time (term-time only)	Mondays 4.30pm – 5.30pm	Wednesdays 5.00pm – 6.00pm
Leader contact	acorn@21stromsey.co.uk	peanut@21stromsey.co.uk
Beaver Scout promise	I promise to do my best to be kind and helpful and to love God. (variations are available for those of different faiths, or no faith)	

Squirrels are young people aged 4 to 6 who:

- Master new skills and try new things
- Have fun and go on adventures
- Make friends
- Are curious about the world around them
- Help others and make a difference, in their own communities and beyond

Every week we will gather in groups called a Squirrel Drey. Squirrels take part in lots of interesting and challenging activities – achieving anything they set their minds to and having lots of fun along the way.

Further information is available at: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/squirrels>



Section Information: Beavers

	River Colony	Wood Colony
Age range	6 to 8 years, though some discretion is permitted, so children may join at 5¾ years and “swim up” to Cubs at any time between 7½ and 8½, depending on individual needs.	
Meeting day and time (term-time only)	Tuesdays 5.00pm – 6.00pm	Thursdays 5.00pm – 6.00pm
Leader contact	beavers@21stromsey.co.uk	woodbeavers@21stromsey.co.uk
Beaver Scout promise	<p style="text-align: center;">I promise to do my best To be kind and helpful And to love God.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(variations are available for those of different faiths, or no faith)</p>	

The Beaver section became part of the Scout Association in 1986 and quickly became very popular. It now makes up about a quarter of the young people in Scouting in the U.K.. We opened our second Colony (Wood) on 23rd April 2015.

Both colonies have around 20 members, who take part in a wide range of activities. These include making things, singing, playing games, going out on visits, investigating nature, listening to stories, learning how to be safe and most importantly, making new friends. Badges and awards are gained to recognise the child’s achievements. Within the Colony the children are organised in teams called *lodges*.

Occasionally the Beavers will take part in sleepovers or short camps, which may be their first experience of a night away from home without their parents/carers. Leaders have to be specially trained before they may take young people away, so you know they will always be in safe hands. They provide an excellent opportunity for young people to try out activities that are not possible at the regular Colony Meeting. As you might imagine, the whole atmosphere of living together, even for a short while, as a Colony is very special for the young people involved.

Further information is available at: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/beavers>



Section Information: Cubs

	Phoenix Pack	Taurus Pack
Age range	8 – 10½ years, though some discretion is allowed for individual needs or to move groups of friends together	
Meeting day and time (term time only)	Tuesdays 6.30pm – 8.00pm	Thursdays 6.30pm – 8.00pm
Leader contact	cubs2@21stromsey.co.uk	cubs@21stromsey.co.uk
Cub Scout promise	<p style="text-align: center;">I promise that I will do my best To do my duty to God and to the Queen To help other people And to keep the Cub Scout Law.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(variations are available for those of different faiths, or no faith)</p>	
Cub Scout Law	<p style="text-align: center;">Cub Scouts always do their best, Think of others before themselves And do a good turn every day.</p>	

Cub Scouts, normally simply referred to as Cubs, began in 1916 as the Wolf Cub section. The imagination of the children was harnessed through the story of Rudyard Kipling’s *Jungle Book* – hence names for the leaders are characters from the book, and “pack” is the term for the section as a whole.

In the 1990’s our Group had two packs, *Orion* and *Taurus*, but, owing to lack of leaders, these had to be merged to form *Gemini*. We are pleased to say that, with growing numbers of children, and sufficient leaders, we were able to reopen our second pack, as *Phoenix*, in September 2016. *Gemini* then returned to their original name of *Taurus*.

Each Pack is organised into small groups, called Sixes – each with a different colour woggle (the ring that holds the necker together). During their time in the Pack, Cub Scouts will get a chance to try a wide range of different activities as well as going on trips, days out, and on camps. Participation rather than meeting set standards is the key approach, and there is a range of challenge awards and badges that Cubs can gain to recognise their achievements.

Further information is available at: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/cubs>

SCOUTS

Section Information: Scouts

	Atlantis	Endeavour
Age range	10½ - 14 years, though some discretion is allowed for individual needs or to move groups of friends together	
Meeting day and time (term time only)	Wednesdays 6.30pm to 8.15om	Fridays 7.15pm – 9.00pm
Leader contact	atlantis@21stromsey.co.uk	scouts@21stromsey.co.uk
Scout Promise	<p>On my honour, I promise that I will do my best To do my duty to God and to the Queen, To help other people And to keep the Scout Law.</p> <p>(variations are available for those of different faiths, or no faith)</p>	
Scout Law	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Scout is to be trusted. 2. A Scout is loyal. 3. A Scout is friendly and considerate. 4. A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts. 5. A Scout has courage in all difficulties. 6. A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property. 7. A Scout has self-respect and respect for others. 	

The 21st's Troops are called *Atlantis* and *Endeavour* – named after two of the Space Shuttles from the 1990's. The Scout section aims to build and develop young people's confidence, sense of adventure and outdoor skills, as well as encouraging them to explore their beliefs and attitudes and be creative.

The Troop is divided into small groups called *Patrols*, each headed up by an older Scout called a Patrol Leader (PL). The young people work together on all sorts of projects, from community-based work to planning games and activities for their meetings. They take part in a wide range of activities as part of their programme including traditional skills, such as camping, survival and cooking, as well as a wider spectrum of adventurous activities, such as abseiling, kayaking and air-rifle shooting. There are a number of Challenge Awards and activity badges that Scouts can gain to recognise their achievements.

Further information is available at:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/scouts>

EXPLORERS

Section Information: Explorers

Age range	14 – 17 years. Some discretion is allowed for individual needs or to move groups of friends together, but the individual must leave the Explorer section (e.g. move to Network, the section for 18 - 25 year-olds, or become an adult leader) by the date of their 18 th birthday.
Meeting day and time (term time only)	Mondays 8.15pm – 9.30pm
Leader contact	leaders.dracoexplorers@gmail.com
Explorer Scout promise	Same as the Scout Promise
Explorer Scout Law	Same as the Scout Law

Nationally the Explorer Scout Section was formed in 2002 along with the Scout Network (the section for 18 – 25 year olds) to replace Venture Scouting. A group of Explorer Scouts is called a Unit and is part of the District's provision of Scouting, so is not formally part of the local Scout Group's organisational structure. However, Draco, as our local unit is called, and 21st Romsey Scout Group work together under a Partnership Agreement, which sets out clearly the links between the Unit and the Group, including arrangements for communication, and use of equipment, facilities and resources.

Owing to the other commitments that crop up in a teenager's life, such as holidays and exams, it is important that the programme is flexible: with the support, direction and guidance of Unit leaders, Explorer Scouts are encouraged to lead themselves, design their own programme and work towards the top awards that Scouting offers. At the same time as undertaking the requirements of the Chief Scout Platinum Award they will also be working on the appropriate level of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The Explorer section offers fun and adventure for all, building on the activities that many will have started earlier in their Scouting lives, for example community involvement, camping, mountaineering, air-rifle shooting and water sports. It is highly likely that an Explorer in the Romsey District would have the opportunity to experience these at the International Scout Centre in Kandersteg, Switzerland (<http://www.kisc.ch>). Others from 21st / Draco have been selected to represent the U.K. at Scout jamborees in places as diverse as Chile, Japan, Sweden and the USA.

Explorers also have the opportunity to be a part of The Young Leaders' Scheme, which develops their leadership skills and sense of responsibility by helping to run meetings for younger sections. Draco / 21st probably lead the District in this respect, with Young Leaders in each of our sections.

Further information is available at: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/explorers>

Appendix 3: Roles within the Scout Group

The following is a list of some of the jobs and roles that are needed to keep the Group running smoothly and enable us to provide a high standard of Scouting. In most cases someone is already doing the job, but would welcome help to ease the load or enable them to do it better.

A brief outline is given, but if you think you might be able to help please complete the reply page at the end of this booklet and give it to a section leader. Alternatively e-mail your interest to gsl@21stromsey.co.uk, we can then arrange to discuss it further. Most roles will require a DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) check.

a) Non-uniformed roles

Job or role	Brief information
Cleaning supplies and rubbish removal	Simply ensuring that there is always washing-up liquid and hand-soap in the kitchen, and that towels and tea-towels are washed regularly. Similarly, that soap and toilet rolls are available in the toilets. Ensuring the rubbish bins are emptied and a new liner put in.
Maintenance of the grounds of the H.Q.	Ensuring the grass in the HQ compound is kept short enough for games and camping (a petrol mower is available). Clipping the hedges around the compound. Weeding the paths. Co-ordinating bi-annual work parties to assist with above and any other similar matters.
Maintenance of the inside of the H.Q.	Ensuring that the H.Q. is safe to use and attractive to hirers. This may be anything from undertaking simple DIY, to identifying what needs to be done and, after gaining approval for the expenditure, arranging an external contractor to do it.
Management of H.Q. bookings	The H.Q. is frequently hired by external groups for meetings and birthday parties. To avoid clashes it is necessary to keep an accurate diary of these and Scout events (using a "cloud"-based calendar). Arranging collection and return of keys, and issuing invoices.
Fundraising and publicity	Assisting with the organisation and advertising of fund-raising events such as jumble sales and stalls at the May Fair. This could also include applying for grants and / or donations.
Quartermaster	Keeping an inventory of Group camping equipment and arranging repair and replacement as agreed by the Executive Committee.
Trustee Board	The Trustee Board works in partnership with the uniformed leaders and has strategic oversight of the Group, ensuring good governance in matters of finance, safeguarding, safety etc.
Skills instructor	If you are competent in an adventurous activity (e.g. archery, caving, climbing, kayaking or shooting) we could use your skills!
Helper	A catch-all role that could cover anything from maintaining and issuing the Group's stock of badges to helping with fundraising or occasionally helping to run one of the uniformed sections.

Appendix 3 continued

b) Uniformed roles

Role descriptions for each of these can be found at

<https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=268,271,279>

Role	Brief information
Section Assistant	<p>As the name implies, a Section Assistant helps with the running of one of the groups of children / young people. It's a more regular commitment than that of occasional helper, but does not have to be weekly. Depending on the age group concerned it might include anything from helping a Beaver cut out craft materials to helping a Scout build a bridge (they can do the pioneering knots, you just need to help them lift the poles!). If you have a particular skill or interest that you can bring even better!</p> <p>A requirement is a minimal amount of training – the “Getting Started” modules, to ensure you have the necessary background to Scouting and safety: http://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=23 Wearing a uniform is optional in this role.</p>
Assistant Section Leader	<p>Support the Section Leader in providing a balanced programme, in line with the themes of Scouting.</p> <p>To ensure that you have the necessary knowledge and skills to do this there is a comprehensive training programme that you will be required to complete. The “Getting Started” modules need to be done within 5 months of appointment, the remainder within 3 years. A range of training methods is available to make it as easy as possible. Completion of the training programme leads to the award of the <i>Wood Badge</i>.</p>
Section Leader	<p>Manage and lead one of the sections so that it provides a balanced programme in line with the themes of Scouting.</p> <p>To ensure that you have the necessary knowledge and skills to do this there is a comprehensive training programme that you will be required to complete. The “Getting Started” modules need to be done within 5 months of appointment, the remainder within 3 years. A range of training methods is available to make it as easy as possible. Completion of the training programme leads to the award of the <i>Wood Badge</i>.</p>
Assistant Group Scout Leader and Group Scout Leader	<p>Manage and support the Scout Group and its Leaders to ensure it runs effectively, and that Scouting within the Group develops in accordance with the rules and policies of The Scout Association.</p> <p>Undertaking these roles requires an in-depth knowledge of Scouting and an ability to manage a team of volunteers. There is a similar training requirement to that of Section Leaders.</p>



21st Romsey (Nursling & Rownhams) Scout Group



Expression of interest in helping

Please complete and return this page to the Group Scout Leader, or to any uniformed leader.

Having read the welcome pack and the brief information concerning the help the Group needs I think I may be able to contribute in the following area(s):

Please would you contact me to give me more information.

Signed:		Date:	
Print name:			
Contact telephone number:			
Contact e-mail address:			

Send to Cam Beale, Group Scout Leader, via your child's section leader, or by e-mail to gsl@21stromsey.co.uk . Thank you.

Summary of useful websites

21 st Romsey Scout Group:	http://21stromsey.co.uk
Romsey District Scouts:	http://romseyscouts.org
Hampshire Scouting:	http://www.hampshirescouting.org.uk
Scouts UK:	http://scouts.org.uk/home
Scout Store UK (uniforms and equipment):	http://shop.scouts.org.uk
Eastleigh Scout Shop (uniforms):	http://www.eastleigh-scouts.org.uk/scout-shop
Oasis Christian Centre (uniforms):	http://www.oasisromsey.co.uk/in-the-shop
ShopkeepEasy (including 21 st 's informal uniform):	https://shopkeepeasy.com/890000554

Notes

Document Control

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Author: Randell McKay, Group Scout Leader, 21st Romsey Scout Group (2016)
Updated in 2024 by Cam Beale, Ian Biondani and Randell McKay

Version 1.0 Approved by

- a) Group Leaders' meeting 26th January 2016 and b) Group Executive Committee 9th February 2016

Date v 2.3 issued for use: May 2024

Main changes in v 2.3: Addition of Squirrels and Atlantis
Change of Executive Committee to Trustee Board

Date for review: May 2027, or as necessary before that date

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