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NEWS

SPILSBY: Teenager given top scouting award

Jacob's cracker!

AN Explorer Scout from Spilsby has achieved the scouting movement's top award for personal achievement.

Jacob Kirk, 17, of the Nomads Explorer Scout Unit, has achieved the Queen's Scout Award.

Eligibility to become a Queen's Scout is only open to members aged between 16 and 25 and to gain the award at 17 is an outstanding achievement.

High standards of self-discipline and success in community service, activities and interests are key aspects of the award.

Jacob has worked hard serving a year as a young leader with Spilsby Scouts. The award also requires that dedication is given to physical recreation and ac-

Sarah Payne

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quiring a new skill. Jacob spent nine months playing bridge and twelve months water polo.

He explained: "I decided to take up bridge and water polo as they were both new things and I wanted to see what it was like.

"Achieving the award is fantastic, it has taken a lot of hard work but was definitely worthwhile."

Other award requirements included a residential project for which Jacob attended the 21st World Scout Jamboree in Guildford and an environmental project which saw him taking part in the development of a new wood at Goltho Apley.

Jacob's achievement has been made all the more special

as he has also gained the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

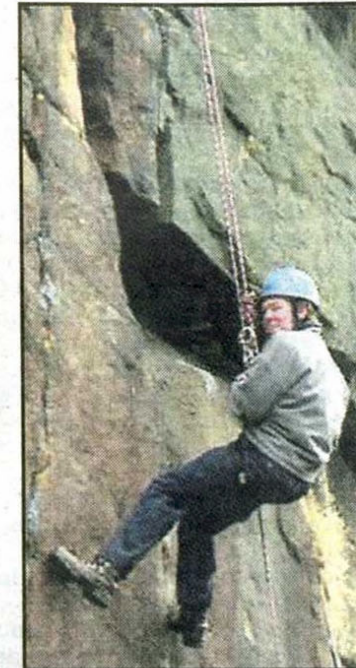
Friends and fellow members of the Nomad Explorer Unit Joe Lindley and David Hewitt have also achieved the award.

As a Queen's Scout privilege, Jacob, Joe and David have all been chosen to attend the National Scout Service and St George's Day Parade at Windsor Castle next April.

Jacob is now starting his final year at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Horncastle.

He added: "The experience has been fantastic and I hope to continue with many of the activities, particularly water polo."

Jacob, Joe and David were presented with their awards at Horncastle College by Vice Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, Tony Worth.



Scout Award: Jacob abseiling in the Peak District as part of his expedition training.