

Scout and Guide Stamps Club BULLETIN

52

Volume ~~53~~ No. 5 (Whole No. 301)



"Uma escola de cidadania, por meio de jogos, para rapazes e raparigas" reconhecida internacionalmente como método de formação do carácter através do desenvolvimento das virtudes cívicas.
Robert Baden-Powell (1857-1941), fundador do Escutismo, em 1907.



"A citizenship training system, through games, for boys and girls" internationally recognised as a method of character building through civic virtues development.
Robert Baden-Powell (1857-1941), founder of Scouting, in 1907.



A selection of "Europa" issues for the Centenary of Scouting

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2008



My Favourite Scout Stamp

by Frederick J. Oppliger



The stamp is Philippines (Scott #1075, Michel # 939, Yvert #797, Domfil #970.25 or SG #1168) from the 1970 Tourism set showing Pasonanca Park, Zamboanga City, Philippines.

The reason for this being my favourite stamp is due to the fact that between 1963 and 1966 I had travelled around the world, at my own expense, and thus the Philippines was one of the

many countries visited, for two months in March and April of 1966.

Being a Scout/Scouter, I was invited, having already completed Wood Badge in the United States, to serve as the Assistant Quartermaster for their First Commissioners Wood Badge Course in the Philippines. As for the Course director, it was the then Gilwell Camp Chief, John Thurman.

Thus, I met Scouters from all parts of the country and was invited to visit them as I later travelled about the country.

So, when I got to Zamboanga City, I thus looked up the Scouts and was offered accommodation in their “Scout Cabin” which I thought would be one of the number of cabins that were in the City Park, of which some are shown on the stamp.

As I recall, the cabins shown are the ones for the Girl Scouts, even though it looks like there is a Scout Fleur-de-Lys on one of the Cabins. On the other side of the amphitheatre, out of view on the stamp, are other cabins, open fronted, that the Boy Scouts utilized.

Thus, to my surprise, I was taken to the Cabin that is built in the tree, just as the stamp shows, to spend the night!

It seems that only “Dignitaries”, so to speak, get to stay in the Cabin and the previous occupant from the previous week had been the American Movie Actor, Joseph Cotton.

By no means was I a “Dignitary” but I was / am a member of the Scouting Program, and thus this is my reason for considering this to be “My Favourite Scout Stamp”.

Chairman's Notes

John Ineson

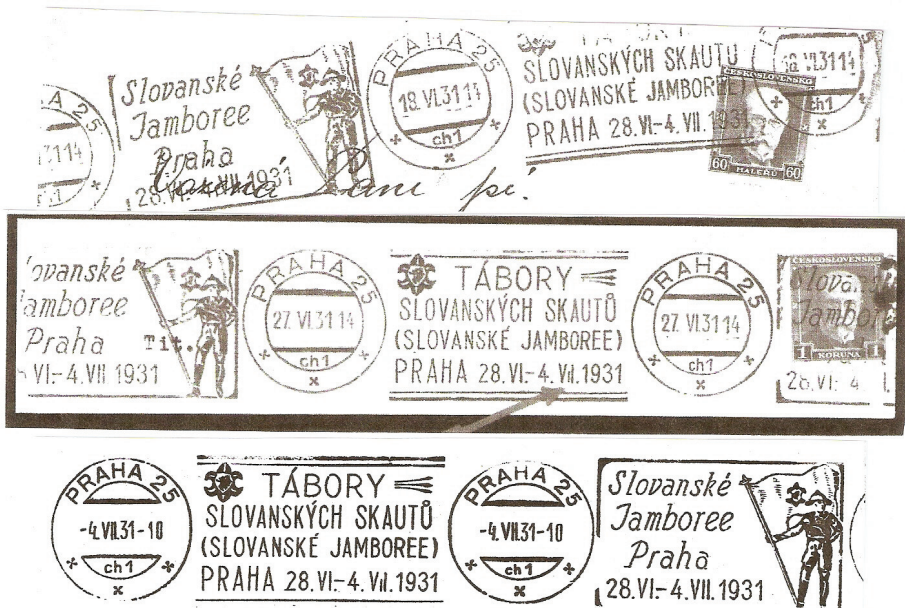
As you will see in Peter Duck's report, the 2008 Euro-Scout meeting in Benken, Switzerland was a great success. The village situated in a most beautiful part of the country was a superb setting for this bi-annual event, and having the Swiss National camp "Contura 08" nearby gave an added attraction for visitors. The displays, which were non competitive, were as usual of a very high standard, with exhibits coming from most European countries as well as India and the U.S.A. During the weekend a meeting of IFSCO, the umbrella organization of Scout and Guide Stamp Clubs, took place with our member Randall Frank being appointed President for the next two years. IFSCO now has its own website www.ifsco.info

I did think that the last Bulletin number 300 was a very good issue, and at last our appeal for articles was answered. Other than the usual contributions from committee members, it was good to receive letters or articles from Don Douch, John Roberts, Benito González Bugallo, Peter Shore and Colin Walker. Regarding the very high priced Baden-Powell postcard that John Roberts referred to, is it dated 1908? All I can see is March 6th with the year rather blurred, but no doubt the buyer considered it to be 1908. Therefore if it is, it could be one of the earliest recorded used Scout postcards bearing in mind that the first part of Scouting for Boys was published on January 16th 1908, only seven weeks before. Do any other members have a Scout postcard with an earlier postmark?

In my last Chairman's Notes, I mentioned the purchase of Jam Roll, the Rolls Royce car presented to B-P at the 1929 World Jamboree and at the same time gave the web site address www.jamroll.org Unfortunately there has been some delay with this site going live, but it is now online and you are invited to view this and if you would like to donate towards this project, details are on the website. The car has recently been on view at Gilwell during the annual reunion where the Hon. Michael Baden-Powell, the grandson of the founder was in attendance.

Although I am attending the FIP International Philatelic Exhibition in Prague this September, unfortunately I will have left before the special exhibition "90 years of Czech Scout Delivery Postal Service Mail 1918" which is being held at the Prague Postal Museum. This runs from September 19th to November 23rd and will display the stamps and covers of the Scout Post of November 1918.

In 1931 a Scout Roller cancel was used from 16th June to 5th July to advertise the National Jamboree held near Prague in Czechoslovakia. Three types of this roller cancel are recorded. The top one shows the cancel used from 16th June, but by 20th June the Roman figure V11 has been broken so that it appears after this date as VII. The third is a rarely seen cancel with only one circle by the date of the postmark.



As you are all probably aware the next World Jamboree will be held in Sweden in 2011. At the recent World Scout Conference held in South Korea, it was agreed that the 23rd World Jamboree will be held in Japan. No doubt another case for a large issue of special stamps.

EDITORIAL

Well, here we are a bit late but I'm afraid that I have been very busy over the past couple of weeks getting things ready for our Gang Show Auditions. We have big problem this year in that the Theatre is reducing the amount of changing room facility that we have which will mean that we will have to cut something like 20% out of the cast - 20 young people who will not get that unique experience.

There are two large obituary notices in this issue and I make no apology for taking up the space for these. Within the timespan of about three months we have lost two of the major collectors of Scout Philately (and other items) and we will all be the poorer for their passing.

Its appeal time again. I'm running short of articles - haven't even got a Favourite Scout Stamp. Come on - remember you can send them by e-mail.

Terry Simister

COMMITTEE PROFILE – Graham Osborne – Secretary

16th Christchurch (St Georges) was my first introduction to Scouting starting as a Wolf Cub in 1950 aged eight and for some two and half years I had a very interesting and rewarding time. I gained the Leaping Wolf and graduated to become the Senior Sixer. This was followed by some four years as a scout in the St Georges Troop and whilst the scouting we undertook was active and outdoors, training and badge work was not a high priority and I never progressed much beyond second-class status. One of my memories from that time is using a trek cart to take the troop to weekend camps in a village some 5 miles outside Christchurch. Great fun, holding up the traffic in the then narrow streets and bridges of Christchurch!

Fortunately by this time, a District Senior Scout Unit had been formed and number of us became the founder members of it. Thanks to the efforts of a dedicated SSM and later, a RSM, there then followed a number of years during which I really experienced the Scouting/BP spirit. A number of us achieved the Queen's Scout award and Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, although I think it fair to say we received the awards on behalf of our two leaders. As part of our training programme a number of us opted to assist with Cub Packs or Troops and I became an ACM at 1st Christchurch (Town) Group, serving for a very enjoyable 7 years (I still have the parchment warrant). During this time I became involved in the Christchurch Gang Show and, when the show reached Gang Show standard, was lucky enough to receive my red Gang Show scarf from Ralph Reader himself.

Leaving school at 16 after "O" levels I entered the Civil Service joining the Department of Employment in Bournemouth in 1958. It was there that I eventually met a young lady named Christine and we became an item – on our first "date" Chris sat in the audience of the Gang Show whilst I performed in "drag". Fifty years later we are still going strong. In 1964 I went to Oxford – to work in the Employment Exchange, not to the University – followed in 1965 by a move to Reading. By this time Chris was also an ACM with the Town Group and I was travelling backwards & forwards at weekends to Christchurch. We married in 1967 and moved to Reading and gradually our involvement with Scouting in Christchurch lessened but grew in Reading. In 1968 we both became ACSLs at 52nd Reading and some 4 years later I took over as CSL serving for 4 years. In 1973 I also took on the ADC (Cubs) appointment for Reading South District.



1959

However this did not last too long as in 1974 I was moved to lead the Occupational Guidance Unit at Luton. We had hardly moved into our house in Luton when a neighbour called and asked if I was willing to start a Scout Troop for a Cub Pack that met at a nearby school – he was the District Secretary!

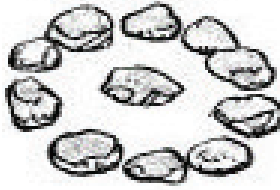
So in 1975 I formed the 3rd Someries Scout Troop in Luton later becoming Scouter in Charge until 1981 when I began commuting to London. At this stage I handed over the SL post becoming GSL. By this time we had a young family although, with me looking after the Scouts (and, sometimes, the children), Chris was able to take on ACSL at the Group. During this time I became involved with the local Church serving for a while as Churchwarden and as Treasurer.

In 1983 my work then moved me to Basingstoke where again the Scouting network quickly worked and I was soon ASL at the 8th Basingstoke URC Group becoming SL some 3 years later. In 1988 I returned to commuting to London and the long hours and a responsible post meant I had to give up the SL appointment and for a short while became ADC (Cubs) for Basingstoke East District. As this did not fit well with my hours of commuting I eventually became Deputy District Commissioner for Basingstoke East District until 1994 when a change of responsibilities involving travel away from home meant that I had to relinquish my scouting appointments. Although I was very pleased to be asked to lead the Camp Fire at this year's Centenary Celebrations of the 1st Christchurch (Town) Group.

A work colleague at Reading introduced me to Philately and as my awareness of the subject grew I developed an interest in Scout & Guide stamps although I think it fair to say that my interest and knowledge has not developed as far as some of my fellow committee members. The technical term for my level of collecting is, I believe, “a bob a jobber”, which seems appropriate.



I retired from the Civil Service in 2002 and felt that I could repay (and further) the interest I had in Scouts Stamps by volunteering to take on the role of Secretary of the SGSC, which had just become vacant. I also think that I wanted to ensure that I something to do to fill all the time I would have in my retirement. I need not have worried as I have less free time now than when I was working. Besides stamps and the SGSC I am Treasurer, Bell Ringer and Lay Reader at my local church, Secretary and Treasurer to two local charities, I enjoy walking – particularly Long Distance Footpaths (by the time you read this I hope to have walked the Peddars Way and Norfolk Coastal Path) – and find that Real Ale aids those moments of reflection!



WALTER GROB-SIGRIST 1914 – 2008

One of the great names from the early days of Scout philately has passed away. Walter Grob-Sigrist of Lutry, Switzerland died on 28th June 2008. Walter`s name appeared in the list of new members in our Journal for March 1963. We became friends through correspondence and first met at the 11th World Jamboree in Marathon, Greece that year.

Later in the 1960`s we visited his home and had the privilege of seeing his fantastic collection. As a relative newcomer to our hobby, I can remember being overwhelmed with his collection of Mafeking items. Also his World Jamboree material, Swiss Scout philately etc etc was mind-boggling!

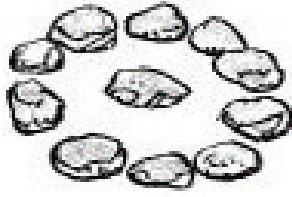
In 1953 he arranged one of the first Scout philatelic exhibitions at the 5th World Rover Moot in Kandersteg. Although I was at the Moot, my interests did not include philately, so I did not connect with it.

In 1973 he helped to organise a wonderful exhibition JUBIKA73 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the Scout Chalet in Kandersteg. Also in the 1970`s we travelled together to various Scout shows in Italy. Our conversations and correspondence were mostly in French, and as my knowledge of the language is moderate we did have a few misunderstandings at times! In later years, parts of his great collection were dispersed. I do not have much detail on this, but know that his Mafeking material was sold in London.

In later years he became rather frail and we last met shortly after his 90th birthday in May 2004.

His presence and name in the world of Scout philately will be sadly missed. Condolences have been sent to his wife, son and daughter.

PJD



KEITH BURTONSHAW 1930 - 2008

Keith, who was one of the leading Scout collectors in U.K. died on 12 September 2008, just two days before his 78th birthday.

A quiet and modest man, he had a great knowledge of Scout philately as well as badges and cigarette cards. his collection was vast, and he often delighted us a meetings with selections of his "treasures".

He was also an accomplished landscape artist and his paintings were quite well known in local exhibitions.



Keith looking to add to his collection at an SGSC Exhibition

Having taken early retirement from the Prudential Insurance Company he devoted his time to his painting and his collections. He also served the local Scout community acting as Treasurer to one of the local Groups. He became a member of our Club in the early 1960's, also a member of SOSSI for many years. He was an SG-

SC Committee member from 1992 until his retirement earlier this year.

Keith will be greatly missed by many people and our condolences have been sent to his brother Alan.

PJD

The following article is by our member Michael Harrington and was originally published in the June 2008 edition of the magazine of the Masonic Philatelic Club

SIR GEORGE ROBEY

He was a comedian when proposed into Liverpool Dramatic Lodge No1609, on 24th December 1900 by W. Bro. T. Bush PM, balloted for, and initiated on 22nd January 1901, passed on 26th February 1901, and raised on 26th March 1901. At that time he was living at 35 Circus Road, London. He never went through the



This sheet of 12 stamps/labels were produced for the Prince of Wales Boy Scout Fund, showing George in various costumes



The Robey family

He was born George Edward Wade on 20th September 1869 in Herne Hill, London. As his father travelled abroad for his work, George studied at the University of Leipzig where he learned to speak excellent German and got involved in a duel which fortunately did not prove fatal. On their return to England it was his fathers intention to send him to Cambridge but this was not to be, and George found a clerical post with the constructors of the Birmingham tramway.

In order to appease his family he took his stage name from a firm of Birmingham builders – at first Roby. He later formally adopted the name Robey by deed poll.

He had many interests in the arts, in music and song but once on stage discovered his natural talent for comedy. He was soon earning small fees but his big break came as an assistant to ‘Professor’ Kennedy, a stage hypnotist. He began to attract attention in his own right and was booked to

play the Oxford music hall in June 1891, still only 21.

From the moment he appeared on stage he had the audience in his grip, demanding that they stop laughing in a manner still echoed in such comedians as Frankie Howard and Tony Hancock. Not for nothing was he later billed as the ‘Prime Minister of Mirth’. *Kindly temper your hilarity with a modicum of reserve*, he begged his audiences; and as the laughter continued urged them to *Desist!!*



Two early cigarette cards

He had been offered a knighthood for his charitable services, but had declined it as not fitting for a comedian, but almost at the end of his life in 1954 he finally accepted a knighthood and died later that year on 29th November in Saltdean, Sussex.

Future meetings and Venues

In the hope that it will encourage some of our UK Members - and, perhaps even one or two from overseas, to attend Club Meetings we are able to confirm the following:-

1. The next meeting will take place at the North Richmond Scout HQ, London on the 22nd November.

2. Rooms had been booked at 2009 Philatex meetings as follows:

28th Feb. starting at 15:00 to 17:00

and 7th Nov. starting at 10.30am to 12.30pm.

These meetings to be open to Club members with any Committee business being discussed as necessary.

3. A Committee meeting will be held on 25th April at the North Richmond Scout HQ.

4. The June 2009 Committee Meeting and the 2009 AGM will both be held on 20th June at the Headquarters Training Ship, the Lord Amory, at the Docklands Scout Project in London.

FUTURE COPY DATES

November 11th, January 11th, March 15th and May 17th.

Please send copy, including photos, electronically - where possible.

From Peter Duck:

I should like to take this opportunity to advertise my "100 List" which has been going well for some years and currently has 21 subscribers. The lists contain 100 items of Scout & Guide interest including stamps, covers, postcards, labels and ephemera. Most items are priced at under £1.00 and as one item is sold, another replaces it. Lists are dispatched two or three times each year. If you wish to subscribe, please send a 1st class stamp, or a couple of Scout badges or postcards from overseas. There is no further charge for the lists provided you order something, and after two "no orders" names are deleted.



NOTE THE DATES NOW 14TH TO 16TH MAY, 2010
IN THE SHIRE HALL CHELMSFORD, ESSEX, UK.

The Stamp History of Redonda

by Peter Shore

I have always thought there was more to a stamp than counting its perforations, checking its postmark or inspecting its lack of glue, so let's look at the stamps issued by..

.....**Redonda** – or should it be more formally announced as -

The Kingdom of Redonda

Situated in deepest South Caribbean waters approximately 16.58N and 62.19W – give a windswept yard or two, is some 34 miles (nautical or otherwise) WSW from Antigua is some 200 acres in rock – storm bound, wind lashed, isolated and very uninhabited!



This desolate, desperate island apparently was first sighted by our old friend Christopher Columbus way back in 1493 and thought it seems that he did not/could not go ashore. It wasn't until 1856 when a certain Mathew Dowdy Shiel, an Irish sea trader, came across it and somehow landed, and later claimed kingship until 1872 when it was annexed by Britain (who else?) and became part of the colony of Antigua.

Dowdy – or should we say “doughty”? - Shiel organised labourers from Montserrat and began mining operations for bird guano (phosphates) and by battling an obviously unfavourable climate, lack of harbour, sea swell, prevailing winds managed to shift – and supposedly sell - some thousands of tons of guano.

Now things start getting exotic and misty.....Mathew Dowdy Shiel then abdicated his throne or kingship, for his son Mathew Phipps Shiel who later settled in England as a novelist of repute!.

1899 saw a hurricane destroying most of the islands fragile buildings and the last shipments of guano were despatched about 1912. By that time Phipps had been appointed King Felipe and became a well published, read and popular man of arts. On his death in 1947 his title was succeeded by the poet John Gawsword, subsequently crowned King Juan I. Not only was he well known/respected in London literary circles but was also generous with Redondan titles!. You named it – you bought it!

Later a request – nay – a demand, was proclaimed that honourable seafarers should offer their services and join the Royal Redondan Navy – in fact the author

of this doubtful but fascinating yarn – has in hand as we speak an application to register his family craft for honourable service of the aforementioned Royal Redondan Navy with which he hopes will bring certain perks, rewards and prize money.!

More information I am sure can be acquired by just visiting to Redondan Consulate in Britain, The Wellington Arms, Park Road, Freemantle, Southampton, though I doubt if it will be free!

www.wellingtonarmsouthampton.co.uk/html/redonda.html

Historical Note: in 1997 a very mixed bag of entrepreneurs, royal family, writers and journalists visited the island and climbed to King Juan’s Peak passing the sad remains of the Post Office (established by Antigua in 1987 to issue stamps – though sadly wrecked a little later to another hurricane), the miners barracks, cisterns, bakery and rusting equipment all once laboriously erected and run by Victorian engineers.

References. John Gawsworth Wikipedia Lost Club “Wellington Arms”, Southampton.

Thematix ‘09

Following the demise of Thematica the trade section will continue under a new name - Thematix ‘09 and will be held at:

The Jester Suite
Harlequins Rugby Club
Langhorne Drive
Twickenham
Middlesex
TW2 7SX

Dates will be confirmed by the end of 2008 and will be either 26th/27th Juen or 3rd/4th July 2009.

The new venue has plenty of car parking, is a short walk from the railway station and will provide space for a similar number of dealers.

Our member Bob Lee is one of the co-promoters of this new event

Extract from the July issue of
Picture Postcard Monthly

‘Positive’ sale for TVS as Scouts score

What Trevor Vennett-Smith described as a “*good and positive sale*” grossed over £54,000 at Nottingham in May, with two lots of the 1960s-published *Scouts of the World* catching the eye. 64 of the first (1964) set realised £218 and all 111 of the 1968 issue made £403. Best single price was for the perennially popular Louis Wain, one of whose Jackson’s adverts with a cricket

Images of B-P

Throughout his career B-P appeared on postcards and other souvenirs, from the photograph by Elliott & Fry wearing military uniform, with the soon to be familiar wide brimmed hat of the South African Constabulary that he formed in 1900 and the later Boy Scouts.



Postcards, either commercial productions or from private photographs, fall into several clear categories; the Hero of Mafeking as mentioned, sometimes sold as one of a set of Boar War Leaders, and as other souvenirs such as cigarette cards, to silk pictures and even advertising bookmarks - then, as now, celebrities helped to sell products!

celebrities helped to sell products!

The next group of cards are those picturing B-P as the General in the dark frock coat and peaked cap and can be dated in line with his promotions; being promoted Major General in 1903, Lieut-General in 1907 and Inspector General of Cavalry in 1908, commanding the Northumbrian Division of the Territorial Army also in 1908. These card usually depict B-P on inspection tours of the army and



also inspecting Boy Scouts. Following his retirement from active military service in 1911 he was made Colonel of the 13th Hussars and cards show him wearing their splendid uniform.



The most difficult cards to find are those of B-P in civilian dress, usually wearing what appears to be very creased and scruffy looking suits made of thick fabric that were normal dress for a gentleman back then. Sometimes he is seen visiting a local Scout Troop, usually on an unofficial basis as he happened to be in the area, and new images of him are still being found.

The other group of cards show B-P wearing the very earliest Boy Scout uniforms and later the more regulated versions of either the shirt and wide brimmed hat as in the well known 1929 oil painting of B-P by the artist David Jagger. (This is also seen on many stamps) There are finally those of B-P as Chief Scout wearing a tailored jacket with



The image of B-P as the Hero of Mafeking

From Peter Duck re Perfins:

Following Roy Gault's article on Boy Scout Association Perfins in the May/June 2008 Bulletin, I am able to report a few others, and no doubt there are more which have not been recorded.

First of all, for the uninitiated the word "Perfin" is derived from "perforated initials in stamps". These were first produced in the 19th century by public concerns and private companies as a precaution against theft.

The earliest recorded perfins in Scout stamps were from the 5th World Jamboree, Vogelenzang, Netherlands in 1937. The three Jamboree stamps appear with a range of perfinned letters – three letters such as VNS, NBV, NGM, double letters W&C, V&H, LR, and single letters S, K and H. Some are perfinned upright, others inverted and some sideways. In my collection I have 12 variations, all used

stamps, also 2 with S sideways in the 1 1/2c and 6c Jamboree stamps on post-cards. It is believed the S was used by a company with kiosks selling newspapers, postcards etc.

One further stamp from this period is the Netherlands Indies 7 1/2c World Jamboree stamp with letters PAR. I believe there was a study made some years ago on the 1937 perfins, but I have lost track of it.

The Australian stamps issued for the Pan Pacific Jamborees of 1948 and 1952 appear with various State Government Office perfins and the following are recorded:-

GNSW (New South Wales), VG (Victoria), T (Tasmania), WA (Western Australia).

Also commercial perfins D&JF and CA are known. The State perfins appear in upright, inverted and reversed positions. I have never found one on a used envelope. The 1960 stamp commemorating 50 Years of Girl Guides also appears with State Government perfins.

The only other Scout stamp I can record is from U.S.A. 1950 for 40th Anniversary of Boy Scouts of America. The stamp is perfined TIIM (or MIIT reversed) and is inverted on the used stamp.

In 1985 the Polish scouts in London celebrated their 75th Anniversary. An exhibition was held in South Kensington and a special postmark was used on 11.XI.1985. Cards bearing the postmark also carry the "King Arthur and Merlin" 17p stamp (issued 3rd September 1985) with perfined initials ZHP (Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego = Polish Scout Association). These initials also appear in a 1p Machin definitive stamp. If my Polish is correct, this was a limited issue of 600 stamps which were affixed to numbered souvenir covers, but not postmarked.

Two other perfins related to Scouting can be found. Firstly from Germany in 1915. The company of F.A.Seiler, Dessau produced Scout uniforms in the early 1910's. They used stamps perfined SD and my cover has printed address "An die Leitung des Pfadfinderkorps" plus hand-written Dischingen. (To the Leader of the Scout Group in Dischingen).

Secondly from Romania in 1932. Cartea Romaneasca was a supplier of Scouting articles and other printed items relative to education and sport. Their perfined 50b Aviation Fund stamp carries the letters CR inverted. The flimsy postcard also bears a meter slogan showing a girl diving into the sea and includes the word CERCETASI (= Scout).

Cigarette Cards

As in the other subject areas so far covered in this 'corner', this traditional area of collecting can help document the 'two lives' of the Founder, his army career particularly after the Siege of Mafeking, and the meteoric rise of Scouting. The subject though, in purely Scouting terms, is something of an anachronism. Though Baden-Powell was a smoker in his early army career and again, in strict moderation, in his later life the founder was totally opposed to young people smoking, and he was associated with several anti-smoking organisations. In *Scouting for Boys* 1908, he warned against its dangers, and his voice contributed to sale of tobacco being made illegal to under 16's in that year. This of course chimes very well with the current health-related prohibitions placed on the habit.



Cigarette Cards, introduced in the US in the late 1870's were widespread by the time of Siege of Mafeking 1900-1901 and it is a fact that B-P's popularity in the form of his image on cigarette cards helped the sale of many different cigarette brands, the most common of which was probably Ogden's Guinea Gold whose 'Photographic Series' cards used the famous Elliott and Fry 'wide awake' hat portrait. This card has quite a few variations but can readily be obtained for a couple of pounds,

surely a bargain for a genuine B-P contemporary photograph! Rarer is the same company's image of B-P on horseback, and coloured hand-drawn Boer War images of B-P such as that produced by Salmon and Gluckstein in 1901. It is fortunate indeed that all cigarette cards can be purchased as single cards as well in complete sets (usually at around a third higher that price of the set divided by its number of cards - though in the case of B-P cards this 'rule' is often exceeded). The 'holy grail' for many Scout Collectors however is a one card set issued by Lambert and Butler in 1901 entitled 'Baden-Powell, King of Scouts' which I have seen advertised at £500. Predating the Scout Movement by seven years, the title of course refers to B-P's army scouting achievements. Two of the three VC's awarded during the Siege of Mafeking can be found in the Taddy's VC series, other cards depict Lady Sarah Churchill who was also besieged in Mafeking with B-P. It is also possible to find images of B-P's School (Charterhouse), its tie, the badges and uniforms of the regiments in which he served etc. Perhaps the most bizarre 'B-P'

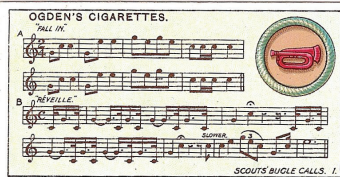


issue was the Ogden Tab Cigarette card of 1902 which portrayed B-P's pet Maltese Terrier that won 2nd prize in the Toy Dog Show and Crystal Palace during that year.

The earliest set of Scout Cards that I have been able to encounter is that published by Copes in 1910, but in the following years at least 10 cigarette manufactures issued sets of Scout Cards. Ogdens alone had nine sets of fifty cards though it has to be said that some of these are duplicated with merely different coloured backs. I estimate that there are around 1000 different Scout and Guide related Cigarette Cards to be collected. Most of these are in complete Scouting sets, usually 50 cards per set, that can often be purchased for £60-£70. Some 'single' images of B-P show up in



sets of famous people, the most bizarre perhaps is the Ritchie portrait in 'Players' 'Straight Line Caricature series of 1926. With such a range of images to choose from there is almost bound to be a card to illustrate any Scouting theme – and I exploit this to the full in the many articles to be found on the Scouting Mile-



stones website. Just as an example of how bizarre you can get, Ogdens published five different cards depicting the 'sheet music' for Scout Bugle Calls.

Scout Hero Jack Cornwell VC, not surprisingly, is well depicted. My book, 'JT Cornwell VC and the Scouts Badge of Courage', illustrates nine different cards showing Jack and I am sure there must still be others.

Being something of a *proselytising* non-smoker myself I have only recently come to see the potential of collecting Scout Cigarette cards and am therefore not in any way an expert, though there are others in our club who can be described as such, including our editor Terry Simister, Chairman John Ineson and late committee member Keith Burtonshaw.

As with all other forms of collecting, condition is everything. Creased or stained cards, no matter how rare are practically worthless, and those with rounded corners - perhaps with a history of being flicked against a wall as was the want of many child born before the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, have 'space holder only' interest to avid Cartophilists (Cigarette Card Collectors). If you are not too fussy about pristine condition, 'singles' can often be found for a pound a piece (though rarely B-P images). The best guide for cigarette card collecting remains



'Cigarette Card Values' by Murray Cards whose 2007 catalogue was sold at £7.50.

Scout and Guide Stamps Club

Club website: www.sgsc.org.uk

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