

# Scout and Guide Stamps Club BULLETIN

52

Volume ~~53~~ No. 6 (Whole No. 302)



Merry Christmas Wishes



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2008



## Editorial

Well, this is it - I've made a year as the Editor - and a very interesting time it has been as well! Mostly it has gone very smoothly and I am very grateful to those of you who have supported me by sending in articles. I can always do with more - especially for the "My Favourite Scout Stamp" pieces. There have been one or two problems - like letters going astray and e-mails not getting through but overall I feel that it has been a success and from the letters and e-mails that I've received I think you do too.

So now we approach 2009 and Scouting's 102nd year. I don't know about you all but here we are slowly getting a series of Scout Groups celebrating their own Centenaries, with many issuing commemorative badges but, so far, no stamps or postmarks.

I've been asked by several people about the franking mark that we sue on the Bulletin distribution. I hope that you all notice it was different this time - Guiding instead of Scouting. These franks belong to a company which trades as both "One Stop Scouting" and "One Stop Guiding" and sells items to both Movements, such as scarves (neckers), badges, camping equipment, etc. etc. So whilst it is not strictly a Scouting or Guiding meter mark it is at least strongly related.

By the time that you are reading this we will be only about 18 months away from EuroScout 2010, which as I seem to be constantly reminding you is being held in Chelmsford in the UK. The dates have been specifically chosen to coincide with those of the UK National Stamp Exhibition in the hope that this will encourage visitors to the big event to stay on a day or so longer and come to see us. For those who are not aware of it, EuroScout is a Pan-European Scout Philatelic Exhibition which is held every two years in a different European location. It has been running for several years now and recent venues have included Switzerland, Germany and Spain.

Please log the dates now as we will need plenty of help with the setting up and taking down of the exhibition frames and other paraphernalia.

Full details of the event will be published early in 2009 but it will include the exhibition itself in The Shire Hall at Chelmsford, a celebration Dinner on the Saturday evening at a local hotel and the opportunity to visit both Gilwell Park and also Hylands Park the site of the 21st World Jamboree and home to the commemorative "One World Garden".

Hotel details will be finalised shortly and this information will be included in the published details for the event. Look forward to seeing and meeting you all there.

Terry Simister

## Chairman's Notes

John Ineson

During my travels earlier this year I visited the world philatelic exhibition held at Prague in the Czech Republic, which attracted an impressive 45,000 visitors over three days. I had never seen so many people looking at the exhibits which came from 61 countries, and it was difficult to get close to the frames. Only one Scout exhibit and that was by our member Benito Bugallo of Spain who also attended the show. Women and children were admitted free, while the cost to male adults was 80 czk (£2.50) per day. Travel tickets for one day cost 100czk but 330czk for three days, even the Czechs cannot work this out!. The keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection, attended with a display including the legendary 2d blue Mauritius stamp of 1847. However, strict security measures meant that this and the other items from the Royal collection could be seen by only about 5000 visitors, who had to queue for up to four hours. On the Saturday during the show, the annual collectors fair took place with some 220 dealers selling Miner-



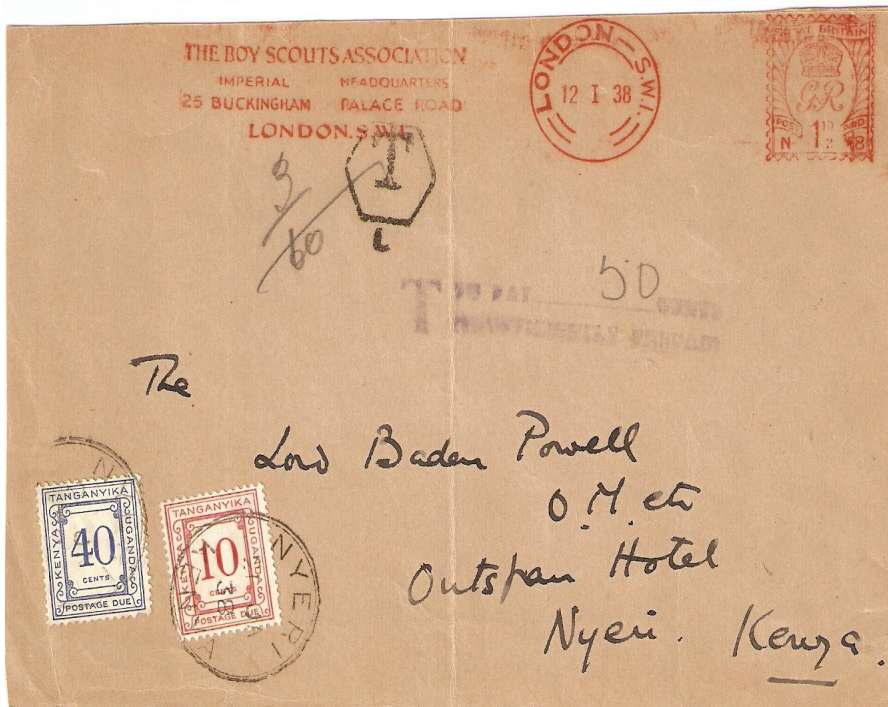
als, Coins, Telephone Cards, Banknotes, Postcards and Stamps.

I returned to Prague three weeks later to attend 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Czech Scout Collectors. This was very well attended with visitors numbering between 2-300 with some of our members from the U.K., Finland, Germany and Austria. Following this I visited the National Postal Museum where there was an exhibition to commemorate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Scout stamps and postal service run by the Scouts in 1918. However this was rather a disappointment as most of the material was modern, despite knowing that there were some real treasures in their archives including an inverted President Masaryk stamp.

Sold recently by Prestige Auctions of Australia was an exceptional example of runner mail smuggled out of Mafeking during the siege. This tiny letter sheet (folded to 52 x 62mm) to England with a Cape of Good Hope 1d stamp tied



by a light “Crocodile Pools, South Africa” cancellation was written on 19<sup>th</sup> November 1899. Travelling via the northern route, it has the Bulawayo transit back stamp and then arrived at its destination, Halifax, England on February 25<sup>th</sup> 1900. Very few runner mail items are known from the earlier days of the siege and as the Mafeking overprint stamps were not issued until March 1900, this mail was underpaid and the letter shows the large “T” tax mark and the postage due of 5d. The message reads “We are both well and in good health. Mafeking is



still flying the Union Jack”. Estimated at Australian \$500, it made \$2700 (£1345, €1546, US\$ 1875 at mid November rates)

I have recently purchased the front of a package sent from the Boy Scout Association in London and addressed to Lord Baden-Powell, Outspan Hotel, Nyeri, Kenya. Posted on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1938, it was underpaid by 5 pence and so bears 50 cents Postage Due labels of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika (as it was then known). When it arrived. Lady Baden-Powell wrote to Eileen Wade, her Secretary in England “Thanks so much for sending ‘Mudley’. It came in this and though I don’t mind a bit about paying the 5d for under stamping, ought the office stampers [sic] be advised to weigh letters for Africa!! It is 1d per half ounce isn’t it!”

COMMITTEE PROFILE – Melvyn Gallagher –  
Vice Chairman and Junior Section

The Collector Badge was the first that I gained in the 2nd Upminster Cub Pack, moving on to the 1st Upminster Scout Troop where, as a P.L. I led a Patrol to the 1967 Greater London North East Diamond Jubilee Camp to Germany. It rained and rained and the insanitary toilet arrangements led to most of the campers becoming ill. The survivors, including me, enjoyed the arrival of the German army relief column that handed out American tinned army k rations that contained all sorts of treats, including cigarettes.

My Group later celebrated their 50th, our H.Q. Hosting a visit from the Chief Scout, Charles Maclean. I had supervised the building of a huge pioneering project - a very tall multi-stage tower like those used to besiege castles, that promptly collapsed when the great man was safely indoors and, after being hauled upright again, stayed erect long enough to get his approval.

Now attending the, then, Coopers' Company Grammar School in Bow it boasted a huge and thriving Scout Group that I soon joined to enjoy two week green field summer camps in Devon and trips to Luxembourg, scrumpy and schnapps, happy days! My Group was the 11th Stepney and the name changed to the ungainly 22nd Tower Hamlets (West). I don't recall any Groups from other points of the compass. We were famed throughout the East End of London for our unique brand of "Gang Show" that we called the "Coopers" Capers and which ran from the 1950s to packed houses and rave revues in the Press. Many, before my time, praised a young star - one Bernard Bresslaw - who went on to star in Carry On films and more serious London Theatre. The songs, lyrics and comic sketches were mostly written by our Group's founder, Don Sutherland, known to us all as "Pug", who had taught music at the school and went on to become Deputy Camp Chief at Gilwell. He never forgave Ralph Reader who he said plagiarised much of his material. My roles included some wearing female attire (the photographs are all safely under lock and key!). During the summer the Group has a standing camp at Gilwell on our own unique private site called the "Lazy B Ranch" - no guessing what the B stood for! Fenced off and situated behind the swimming pool it was our reward for helping to restore Gilwell after the War. Sadly it later became unusable when a new pump house was built and it became largely waterlogged.

Collecting stamps, as well as many other things, and my interest in art and antiques was fostered at school by my Art Master, but after A Level there was, back then, no suitable University course to cater for my interests that were in the museum or auction worlds. Accepting a position as a trainee with a small with a small, old established, London auction house in Kensington which was taken over by Christies in 1975.

Now an A.S.L with my Group, the school became co-ed and moved to Upminster in leafy Essex so the Group became the 3rd Cranham. My work in the world of auctions helped me to add to my stamp collection that was now a thematic Scout based one and a dealer informed me of our Club which I joined and by 1981 I had been coerced to join the Committee and my arms still bear the scars to this day.

My career at Christies had to be balance with my Scouting, difficult at times as my work included much travelling, both at home and abroad. My academic life started afresh rather late in life as an external student at Reading studying for the exams of my professional body the Incorporated Society of Valuers & Auctioneers. Becoming a Fellow and serving as Chairman of their Fine Arts Committee as well as setting and marking exam papers and developing the B.A. Fine Art Valuation course at Southampton and serving as an external examiner there. My professional body was later absorbed by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors - so I am now a Chartered Fine Arts & Antiques Surveyor.

I ended up heading the Valuations Department at Christies in Kensington as a Director and appeared as an "Expert" on the B.B.C's Antiques Roadshow. As well as writing for books and magazines. I parted company with Christies in 2002 as part of a large cull and now work as an independent consultant.

The founder of my Scout Group had died in 1985 and nobody could replace him; after much infighting the role became mine in order to keep the Group running and it has to this day, with my role now as Scouter-in-Charge.

I have other strange hobbies too, including the study of Artillery, being a founder ,member of the Ordnance Society; I help to run a local clay shooting club and am a long standing uniformed member of the British red Cross, being the proud holder of their highest award - the Badge of Honour. My local Scouts benefit from these other activities through shooting contests and first aid courses.

It becomes more difficult to encourage the youth of today to collect stamps with so many other diversions and activities available to them, entered around computers and mobile phones - but I am an old cynic. At best it has now become and transient hobby for those of Cub age, but I keep trying!

(Photo shows Melvyn at Essex Jamboree playing at being Stephen Smith)



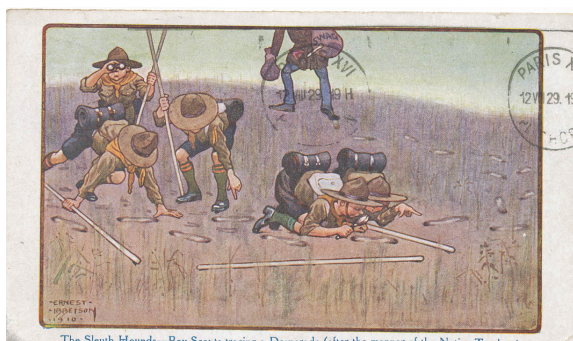
**Ernest Ibbetson**

**1910**

Ernest Ibbetson, was a British painter and book illustrator, especially known for his illustrations of British Army uniforms.

He was one of the first to produce witty, coloured pictures on postcards, showing Scout life in the country.

The issue of this card series in 1910, series no 970 by Faulkner & Co. Ltd., London, surely enhanced the imagination of boys worldwide, and supported greatly the development and rapid growth of the Scout movement



The Sleuth Hounds—Boy Scouts tracing a Deserter (after the manner of the Native Troops)



**Sources:**

www. A.I.S.F. Info



### SALES SERVICE

The following items are available. Orders to Peter J.Duck, 9 Broadlands Court, Kew Gardens Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3HW. Payment with order please: cheques payable to P.J.Duck, USA \$ bills or EURO notes accepted at current rates. Postage extra – Inland 48p for 1<sup>st</sup> class post (any packets weighing over 100 gr will be sent by 2<sup>nd</sup> class post). Overseas 70p for stamp orders only, covers/cards orders £1.00.

STAMPS MINT & USED (Please note – some issues are only available in mounted mint condition, but unmounted will be sent where possible).

	MINT	USED
GAM85 GAMBIA 1985 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides (4)	2.50	2.50
GAM85S GAMBIA 1985 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl guides MS	3.00	3.00
TOG85S TOGO 1985 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides overprints on 2 x Horse Racing MS	6.00	-
BAN85 BANGLADESH 1985 3 <sup>rd</sup> National Jamboree overprint (1)	1.00	-
BAN85A BANGLADESH 1985 3 <sup>rd</sup> National Jamboree DOUBLE overprint (1)	8.00	-
BAN85B BANGLADESH 1985 3 <sup>rd</sup> National Jamboree DOUBLE overprint INVERTED	8.00	-
DHU85 DHUFAR 1985 75 <sup>th</sup> Anny of G.Guides black o/p on Q M Birthday issue Block 4+MS	0.80	-
DHU85R DHUFAR 1985 as above with RED overprint Block of 4 + 2 x MS	1.00	-
ERT85 ERITREA 1985 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides - as above Block of 4 + 2 x MS	1.00	-
ERT85R ERITREA 1985 as above with RED overprint Block of 4 + 2 x MS	1.20	-
NAG85 NAGALAND 1985 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides – as above Block of 4 + 2 x MS	1.00	-
NAG85R NAGALAND 1985 as above with RED overprint Block of 4 + 2 x MS	1.20	-
OMN85 STATE OF OMAN 1985 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides Block of 4 Imperf + MS	0.80	-
OMN85R STATE OF OMAN 1976 as above with RED overprint Blocok of 4 (perf) + 2 x MS	1.20	-
STL86S St.LUCIA 1986 Honouring Scouting MS with plain background	3.00	2.50
STL86SA St.LUCIA 1986 Honouring Scouting MS with background of birds	4.00	-
STL86G St.LUCIA 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides MS with plain background	4.00	3.50
STL86GA St.LUCIA 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides MS with background of flowers	5.00	-
STV86S St.VINCENT 1986 Honouring Scouting MS with plain background	4.00	3.50
STV86SA St.VINCENT 1986 Honouring Scouting MS background of animals	5.00	-
STV86G St.VINCENT 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides MS with plain background	3.50	3.00
STV86GA St.VINCENT 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides MS with background of fungi	4.50	-
STV86SS St.VINCENT Honouring Scouting MS (STV86SA) with SPECIMEN overprint	7.50	-
STV86GS St.VINCENT 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides MS (STV86GA) SPECIMEN overprint	7.50	-
BRB86 BARBUDA 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anny of Girl Guides overprint on Antigua & Barbuda(1985) (4)	-	4.50
BRB86S BARBUDA 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides overprint MS	3.50	3.50
PAR86 PARAGUAY 1986 Fungi issue with Scout badges (6)	-	0.45
MON86 MONTSERRAT 1986 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides (8)	2.25	2.00
MON86S MONTSERRAT 1986 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides (8) with SPECIMEN overprint	7.50	-
BOL86S BOLIVIA 1986 XVI JAMBOREE MUNDIAL overprint on 1985 MS	10.00	-
KIR86 KIRIBATI 1986 60 <sup>th</sup> Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II (5 – one Guide stamp)	1.60	-
KIR86G KIRIBATI 1986 Guide stamp only (1)	0.15	-
KIR86C KIRIBATI 1986 Guide stamp on Presentation card	0.50	-
DOM86 DOMINICA 1986 AMERIPEX Exhibition (4 – one with Donald Duck in Scout uniform)	4.00	-
MAV86 MALDIVES 1986 60 <sup>TH</sup> Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II (1 Girl Guide stamp)	0.25	-
MAV86C MALDIVES 1986 above stamp on presentation card	0.55	-
IND86 INDONESIA 1986 National Jamboree (3)	1.60	-
TRD86 TRINIDAD & TOBAGO 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting (2)	1.75	1.50
BHU86 BHUTAN 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides overprints (4)	3.00	3.00
BHU86S BHUTAN 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides MS	2.00	2.00
OMA86 OMAN 1986 17 <sup>th</sup> Arab Scout Camp (2)	1.00	0.80



THL86 THAILAND 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting (4)	0.50	-
MAR86 MARSHALL ISLANDS 1986 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides block of 4	1.50	1.30
USA87 U.S.A. 1987 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Scouts (1)	0.25	0.18
MAV87 MALDIVES 1987 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides (4)	-	2.50
SUR87 SURINAME 1987 40 <sup>TH</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides (4)	1.20	-
ANT87 ANTIGUA & BARBUDA 1987 16 <sup>th</sup> World Jamboree (4)	2.50	2.25
ANT87S ANTIGUA 7 BARBUDA 1987 16 <sup>th</sup> World Jamboree MS	2.00	1.75
ZIM87 ZIMBABWE 1987 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Girl Guides (3 only – 23c missing)	-	0.75
BAR87 BARBADOS 1987 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting (4)	1.95	1.80

ITEMS FROM STOCK	PRICE	
GS-POL "Scouts & Guides in the Polish Underground" book by Gottfried Steinmann	12.00	
FIN63 FINLAND 1963 Scouts Winter Camp Jyvaskyla PMK on cachet cover	0.60	
FIN69 FINLAND 1969 22 <sup>nd</sup> World Scout Conference Helsinki PMK on cachet cover	0.60	
FIN65 FINLAND 1965 Scout Union of Finland Camp Hakkis Sauvo PMK on cachet cover	0.60	

## My Favourite Scout Stamp

by Wilfred (Wilf) J. Lewis

It is the Great Britain 1957, 1st August, 2 ½ d carmine-red, S.G. 557, for the World Scout Jubilee Jamboree. This stamp was designed by Mary Adshed, with the St. Edward's Crown Watermark 165.



The complete 1957 set with its face value of 1s 9 1/2d which equates to £0.10 (10p) in current money.

I remember my favourite stamp for two reasons:-

The first was when I was 10 years and 10 months old and had been collecting stamps for a few years before. I attended the school stamp club where I had started to build the beginnings of my stamp collection. But, back to my favourite stamp - my friend, who was also a stamp collector, had an older sister who worked in the local Post Office and he had mentioned this Scout stamp to me. I was a Wolf Cub at the time and I went to buy this 2 ½ d Scout stamp only to find that it was one of a set of three costing a total of 1s 9 ½ d. My pocket money at the time was 1s 6d.

The second reason for it being my favourite stamp is because it is a scout Jamboree celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Scouting. The Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield was attended by thousands of Cubs and my pack, the 1st East Ham, was one of the. After 50 years I still remember the Jamboree and I am now with my own Cub Scout Pack, the 1st Whitehead.

I did work at the 21st World Jamboree for three weeks and there I met Terry Simister for the first time.

## Future meetings and Venues

Just a reminder of forthcoming Club Meetings to be held in the UK:-

1. Rooms have been booked at Philatex for Club meetings as follows:

2009

28th February starting at 15.00pm to 17.00pm

7th November starting at 10.30am to 12.30pm

2010

27th February starting at 10.30am to 12.30pm - Room 31

6th May starting at 10.30am to 12.30pm - Room 23

6th November starting at 12.45pm to 14.45pm - Room 23

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

2. A Committee meeting will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 at the North Richmond Scout HQ.

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

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## FUTURE COPY DATES

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

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

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## **PLEASE NOTE**

We will be changing the name and password of part of our web site from 1<sup>st</sup> January. This is to protect names and addresses of our members, and from this date until next year you will need to enter:-

User name: **jamboree** and Password: **birkenhead** (no capitals)

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

## SCOUT POSTAL FRANCHISE IN GREECE.

From SCOUT STAMPS AND POSTMARKS OF GREECE compiled by Reg Morris as a Scout Stamps Collectors Handbook in 1965.

In 1950 and by Royal Decree, the Greek Scout National Headquarters in Athens were granted the facility of free inland postage up to a maximum of 100 letters per month. Such letters required, in lieu of postage, the application of the official seal of the Headquarters. Overseas mail and mail in excess of the monthly quota attract normal postage rates.

However, short memories coupled with a benevolent attitude towards the Scout Movement have resulted in an increasing acceptance that all internal official Scout mail enjoys delivery free of postal charge. And “all” includes mail from Regional Commissioners as well as National Headquarters, provided that such letters bear the Scout official seal. This is invariably applied to the front of the letter in violet.

Thus an interesting exercise is to acquire a specimen of each of the five possibilities.

- (a) Overseas Mail from National Headquarters with normal postage.
- (b) Inland Mail from National Headquarters, exempt from postage.
- (c) Inland Mail from National Headquarters not exempt (posted towards the end of the month).
- (d) Inland Mail from a Regional Commissioner exempt from postage.
- (e) - ditto – but subsequently taxed by the postal authorities.

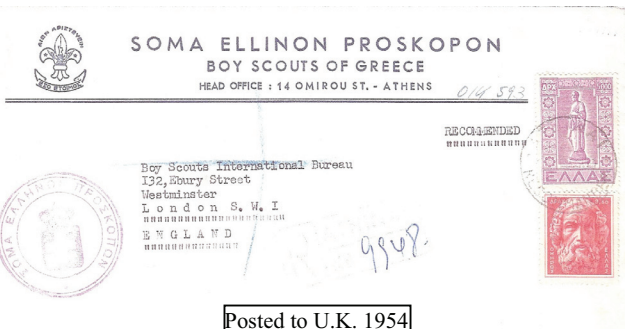
Further notes from Peter Duck.

Many of the earlier envelopes from Greek Boy Scout offices and Commissioners, also from Girl Guides, carry handstamps on the front. Most of those known to me have the postage stamps affixed to the reverse, which seems to be the norm for inland Greek letters of the pre-war period.

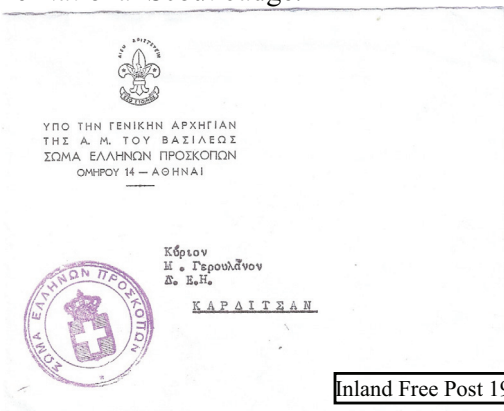
The earliest envelope in my collection with free internal postage is from 1957, but one cover from 1954 has the stamps affixed to the reverse – dated 27.11.54, they were being honest! Two envelopes I have which were sent to U.K. both carry the official seal and stamps on the front.

Many envelopes are known from various local Scout Commissioners using their official seals only in the 1960's. Some of them have tax marks, but no outstanding postage seems to have been collected. As all are addressed to National Scout Headquarters in Athens, no doubt this was overlooked. The Commissioners from the following areas seem to have made full use of the facility: Amalias (Pelopennese), Chalkis, Chios (two different types, one taxed), Karditsa, Kastoria (Macedonia), Karpenission, Lefkas (Ionian Islands), Mytilini (Lesvos), Pyrgos (Pelopennese), Naousa (Macedonia), Rethymnion, Polygyros, Serrai, Stavroupolis, Trikala and Volos (Thessaly).

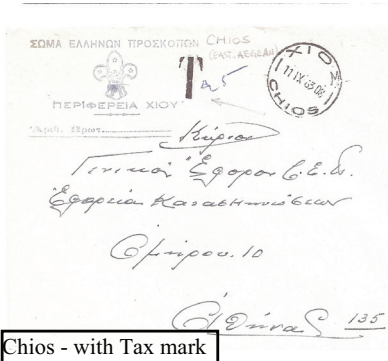
Greece became a Republic in 1973 and this can be noted by the removal of the Royal Crown from the official seal used on mail. Letters from the 1980's show two types of handstamps, one includes a shield within a wreath, the other with the eagle from the National Scout badge.



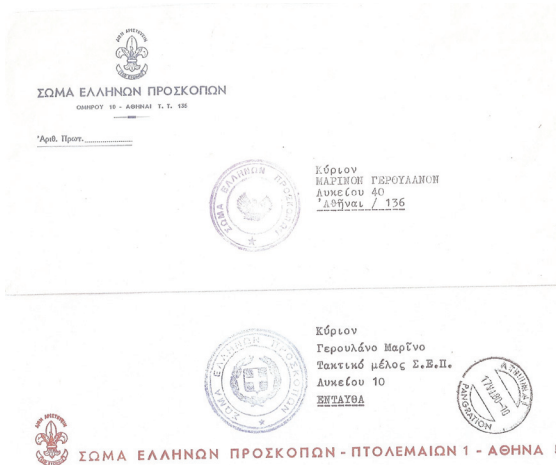
Posted to U.K. 1954



Inland Free Post 1959



Chios - with Tax mark



Top 1990s - Below 1980



ABOVE  
Top Pyrgos, Bottom Amalias  
Both Commissioners



The 31 exhibits on show at EuroScout came from 11 different countries, mostly from European collectors, but also from U.S.A. and India. During the weekend of 25 – 27 July at least 14 nations were represented, including one visitor from Argentina.

The exhibition was held in connection with the Swiss National Camp CONTURA08, the Headquarters of which was in the village of Benken, although the Scouts were spread out in eight sub-camps in the locality.

Postmarks were used at the EUROSCOUT Exhibition and CONTURA Camp, both of which included the location of 8717 BENKEN SG. (St.Gallen).

The 31 frames of displays together with 5 frames of Scout philatelic literature were housed in the Restaurant Rossli (very convenient in the hot weather!). 20 other frames, which included Swiss Scouting history as well as World Scouting, were mounted in the Municipal Hall which was opposite. This exhibition was on show throughout the CONTURA08 Camp.

It is difficult to pick out the highlights of the EuroScout exhibition, there were so many fantastic items on show. Some were presented as thematic displays, others showed items from a few countries. Here is a list of exhibitors with the titles of their displays:

Philippe van Hille (Belgium) Scout & Guide postmarks of France 1938-1998.

Mateo Diaz Pablo Jesus (Spain) Education System of Cub Scouts.

Alberto Vezzalini (Italy) Italian Scout postmarks 1952-1972.

Peter Duck (G.B.) Boy Scouts celebrate 50 years of Scouting 1907-1957.

Pan de Alfaró Estanislao (Spain) One World, One Promise.

Maurizio Cavalli (Italy) "Saluti dal Jamboree".

Gerhard Winter (Austria) B-P.

Werner Kradolfer (Switzerland) Worldwide and Swiss Scouting.

Randall Frank (U.S.A.) 1967 World Jamboree Postal Card.

Giovanni Cucchiani (Italy) The Siege of Mafeking.

Horst Ziegler (Austria) Austrian Scout Philately.

Walter Grob-Sigríst (Switzerland – In Memoriam) The Scout "Wild Tiger"  
stamps of Siam. Also Scout Rocket Posts 1937-1975.

Gottfried Steinmann (Germany) 21<sup>st</sup> World Jamboree. Also "Scout Postmen".

Adri Saltzherr (Netherlands) Saint George, Knight and Saint.

Alessandro Pierotti (Italy) Scouting in Romania.

Andrea Donati (Italy) EuroScout.1996-2006.

Josef Peter (Germany) Scouting – an idea in the World. Also Scouting in Germany.

Scout Archive of Austria – Scouting Work. Also “The Idea of Scouting”.  
Helmuth Fritsch (Germany) “Scouting is....”  
Benito Gonzales Bugallo (Spain) Saint George a living legend.  
Josef Harold (Austria) Scouting Activities.  
Steinar Halvorsen (Sweden) The World Brotherhood of Scouting.  
Jan Cosyns (Belgium) Siam, China, India + Rocket Mail.  
Julian Rodriguez Fernandez (Spain) Once a Scout, Always a Scout.  
Hubert Schnabl (Austria) International Scout Work.  
Suresh Rao G.N. (India) World Scout Movement.  
Luis Martinez de Salinas (Spain) Scouting.  
Wilhelm-Otto Neuback (Austria) Scout Philately of Japan.

Highlights of the weekend included the opening ceremony on Friday evening when we were welcomed by Werner Kradolfer, President of the Swiss Scout Philatelists Club, Horst Ziegler, President of IFSCO and other dignitaries. The speeches, mostly in German, were followed by a reception with aperitif.

On Saturday morning the biennial meeting of IFSCO delegates was held. The President, Horst Ziegler of Austria gave a resume of the previous two years` activities, one of the main points of which was everybody`s disappointment with Royal Mail in not providing a service at the 21<sup>st</sup> World Jamboree 2007 in Chelmsford.

It was then time to elect a new President, and the unanimous choice was Randall Frank of U.S.A., with Luis Martinez Salinas of Spain as his Deputy. Hallvard Slettebo of Norway was elected as Secretary.

Saturday concluded with a festive dinner at a nearby lakeside hotel.

The exhibition closed at 3.30 pm on Sunday and everybody dismounted and took away their displays.

A wonderful and inspiring weekend.

PJD

(A selection of photos from EuroScout 2008 were included on the back cover of the previous issue of the Bulletin)

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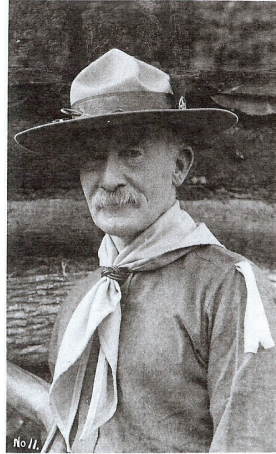
We have received the dates for **ThematiX 2009** ~ The National thematic stamp fair, to be held at The Harlequins Rugby Ground, Twickenham, West London on the last weekend in June - **Friday 26th and Saturday 27th June 2009**

The organisers will be releasing adverts to the Philatelic press for the new year editions but thought that you might like to be amongst the first to have the dates.

A further selection of B-P Images



ROUND THE CAMP FIRE—GENERAL BADEN-POWELL TELLS A SCOUT YARN. AUGUST 1904



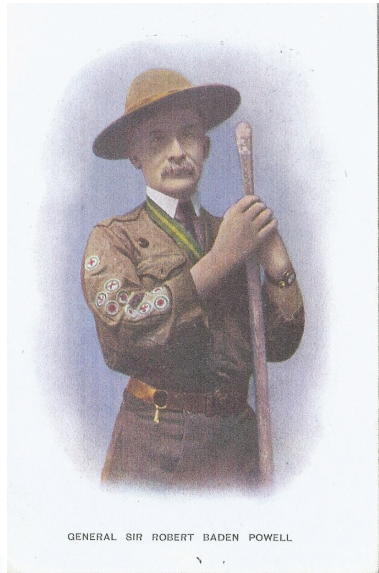
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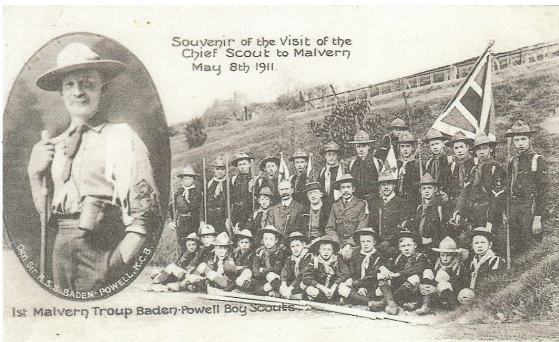
Major-General R. S. S. Baden Powell presenting S. African Medals on Cavairy Parade.



INSPECTION OF BIRMINGHAM & CO. SCOUTS BY GEN. BADEN-POWELL.



GENERAL SIR ROBERT BADEN POWELL.





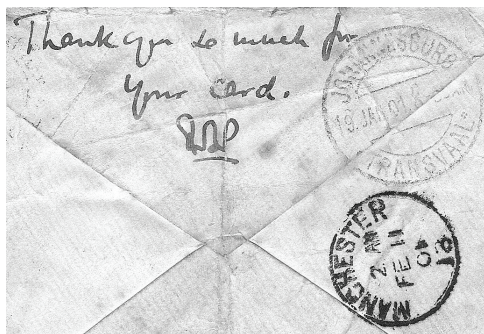
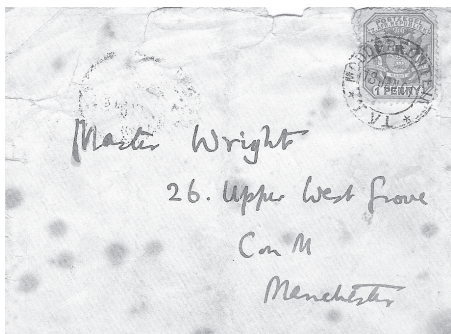
## Letters.

Amazing as it may seem to some dedicated philatelists, it is a fact that the contents of their valuable covers are often historically more significant than the envelopes themselves.

The Siege of Mafeking occasioned what many people regard as the first Scout Stamps. Baden-Powell wrote in 'Camp Fire yarn No.1', that the Mafeking Cadets were his first Boy Scouts. Cadet Sergeant Major Warner Goodyear was the subject of the Mafeking blue 'cyclist' stamp. There were also two different sized stamps depicting the head of Baden-Powell. These stamps along with the 'Mafeking Besieged' overprints appear on 'covers' that were run through the Boer Lines, sometimes called 'Kaffir Mail' and these can be worth several thousand pounds. Of greater value to historians however are the actual letters sent out from the town describing the conditions the besieged had to endure. A letter in my collection from B-P's gunnery Office, Major Panzera, sent home to his family during the Siege, describes how the 'home-made' gun (The Wolf - named after B-P) and the ammunition for it, were made in the railway workshops and how an old naval cannon with the initials 'B P' cast into its barrel, found on a farm, was mounted on a new carriage. It was extremely useful, having the longest range of any of the British Weapons\*.

Shortly after the Siege, Baden-Powell was invited to form a new regiment, the South Africa Constabulary, to stabilise the lands recently taken over from the Boers. Because of his fame as the 'Hero of Mafeking', he had thousands of applicants including many from under-aged boys.

I have a letter posted from Moddersfontein on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 1901 –with B-P's



initials on the reverse of the envelope. B-P advised Master Wright that at the



moment he was not old enough to join him but, "... *you must do your best to grow up quickly and become a man.*" Was this the first time B-P ever used this phrase to a boy? Master Wright is told to be "*strong, truthful and obedient*", virtues B-P was later to write about in the Wolf Cubs' Handbook.

On his return to England in 1901, Queen Victoria had died but the new King, Edward VII, had yet to be crowned. Baden-Powell was summoned to the royal residence of Balmoral where he wrote to his favourite aunt, Lady Flower on October 12<sup>th</sup> 1901, on stationary provided in his room, which, because the Court was still in mourning, was edged in black.

B-P thanked his aunt for sending him tickets to the zoo,

*"Unfortunately I am acting as a zoo myself tomorrow to be stared at and patted, However it is not as bad as I feared, eels get used to being skinned and so must I."*

The Founder then breaks off from his letter writing with a couple of // oblique lines and returns to write;

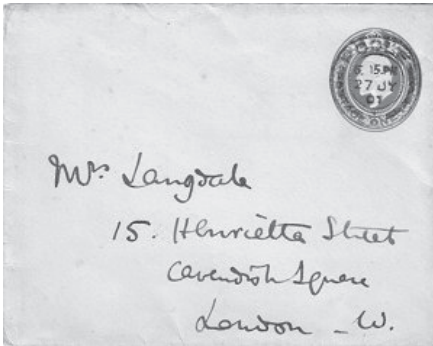
*"I broke off this letter to go and see the King, and had a cosy chat with him and the Queen, received my C.B. (Companion of the Order of the Bath) and my medal (Queens South Africa) from his hands...."*

B-P signed the letter, Stephenson Baden-Powell, a rare signature used only in his family circle where he was familiarly called 'Stephe' (pronounced Stevie). The Founder was named after Robert Stephenson after, his famous Godfather engineer.

Finally, no-one could under-estimate the significance of three letters sent out from Brownsea Island by Baden-Powell in 1907, that are now in the collections of two of our members, John Ineson and Melvyn Gallagher. Despite the often stated fact that the Brownsea Camp was 'experimental' and the boys were clearly not Scouts, two of those letters have a letter-heading proclaiming "Scouts' Camp, Brownsea Island" with a green fleur-de-lys. The first ever used in connection with Scouting.



SCOUTS CAMP,  
BROWNSEA ISLAND,  
POOLE.



B-P wrote to Mrs Langdale, on 26<sup>th</sup> July 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1907, “Now I am down here preparing my Boy’s Camp, It is just the perfect place for it”

Again on August 9<sup>th</sup>,

“I am just breaking up camp here – I am in a tearing hurry – The camp has been a great success but hardish work.”

There are many other B-P letters that have much to say about our history and are of enduring interest. They are all of course ‘one offs’, yet they do come onto the market. Those featured in this article belong to club members, purchased at auction, some even on eBay! Surprisingly perhaps, a Baden-Powell letter need not

The Camp has been a  
great success - but hardish  
work  
Am sorry. Forgive  
best regards  
Yours truly  
B Baden Powell

be out of the price range of most collectors, some in my collection have been purchases at under £100. I would encourage Scout Philatelists, to remember B-P’s immortal words, “Look Wide, and when you have done that Look Wider” and consider the letter as well as the envelope!

\*The author has written several books on Mafeking including ‘Mafeking Artillery’ and the ‘The Mafeking Siege Register’, judged by Mafeking philatelist Frederick Lawrence, as a ‘must have book’, and also the very recently published bound volume with commentary of ‘The Mafeking Siege Slips’.

# Scout and Guide Stamps Club

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Happy Christmas  
 Geseënde Kersfees  
 Gëzuar Krishlindjet  
 Mboni Chrismen  
 Sretan Božic  
 Vessela Koleda  
 Shen Dan Kuai  
 Sretan Božic  
 Veselé Vánoce  
 Glædelig Jul  
 Prettige Kersdagen  
 Bonan Kristneskon  
 Haid Joule  
 Hyvää Joulua  
 Joyeux Noël  
 Frohe Weihnachten  
 Eftihismena Christougenna  
 Mo"adim Lesimkha  
 Shub Naya Baras  
 Boldog Karácsonyt  
 Selamat Hari Natal  
 Buon Natale  
 Merii Kurisumasu



Sung Tan Chuk Ha  
 Priecigus Ziemassvetkus  
 Linksmu Kaledu  
 Schei Chrëschtdeeg  
 Streken Bozhik  
 Selamat Hari Krimas  
 Il-Milied it-Tajjeb  
 God Jul  
 Weşolych Swiat  
 Feliz Natal  
 Karisama te Nawam  
 Craciun Fericit  
 S Rozhdstvom Kris-  
 tovyum  
 Srecan Božic  
 Veselé Vianoce  
 Vesel Božic  
 Feliz Navidad  
 God Jul  
 Mutlu Noeller  
 Srozhdstvom Kristo-  
 vym  
 Nadolig Llawn

Whichever way you say it - it means the same. So at this very special  
 time of year can I hope that we can all pray to our own Gods that we  
 will find a way to Peace on Earth and Goodwill to all Men.

And to all of you who are - or were Scouts and Guides - please remem-  
 ber your Promise and your Law. If we could get all the World to live  
 by these rules it would be a far better place for everybody.

