

# Scout and Guide Stamps Club BULLETIN



Volume 54 No. 5 (Whole No. 313)



SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2010



## Editorial

Well we got a bit better timing with the last issue and, hopefully, will do even better still with this one.

It is interesting when one considers “club” publications and their timing, etc. Like most people I am a member of several clubs including, amongst others, The Great Eastern Railway Society. This is an historical society which studies the railway which built the network throughout East Anglia here in the UK. I was instrumental in founding the Society back in 1973 and it has always been one of my interests. The Society publish two magazines, both on a quarterly basis - on alternate quarters throughout the year. The people there don't seem to get so hung up on the dates of publication because I have just received the January, 2010 issue of their Journal.

I mentioned the forthcoming World Jamboree in the last issue and our attempts to share a base / stand with the International Badgers Club. We have now finally heard from one of the organisers, who has been given responsibility for an Historic Exhibition at the event, saying that we are welcome to assist but we must become members of our National Contingent for IST and apply through that. Needless to say the UK has long since selected their Contingents so we have had to reluctantly decline the invitation - but have offered assistance if there is anything particular which is needed.

I will end this editorial with thanks for the small supply of new articles and a request for more. There are now a few in my stock but it would be nice to get some more so that I can think of planing for the future.

Terry Simister

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### FUTURE COPY DATES

November 21st, January 15th and March 12th

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

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### Future meetings and Venues

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

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

2010 6th November Starting at 13.15pm to 14.45pm - Room 23

These meetings will be fully open to Club members with any Committee business being discussed prior to the meeting, as necessary.

It is no surprise that during this centenary year of Guiding there have been many related stamps issued from many lands, although (as yet) not so many as those issued for the Scout centenary in 2007. Generally speaking their designs follow the now usual format of four stamps, one representing each section, with perhaps a miniature sheet too. National leaders feature and there is a great use of photographic images of groups and individuals. One group of states have each issued similar stamps by the same designer - almost an "omnibus issue", with a set of four values, a similar sheetlet and a miniature sheet from Dominica, Palau, Grenada, Grenada Grenadines, Micronesia and Liberia. My favourite issue to date is the colourful miniature sheet from Ascension Island (as shown on the back cover and referred to in Colin Walker's article) which as you can see show an historical display of Guiding printed ephemera as well as portraits on the stamps of B-P, Lady B-P and Agnes B-P.

The recent single Scouting" stamp from the U.S.A. Is a strange design which I gather was a compromise as the US Post office now has a policy of not honouring single organisations any more (Perhaps our American members would like to confirm the story to our Editor). The design features a figure in climbing gear atop a mountain peak before a silhouette of a figure looking through binoculars with the word SCOUTING.



To a layman this could mean army type scouting as there is no B.S.A. Emblem or uniform shown. However, to prove it is a Boy Scout stamp, printed on the reverse is a credit to Scouting organizations and the work that they do. This self adhesive issue was produced in sheetlets of twenty with saw-tooth roulette perforations.

Since the creation of the international youth scouting movement some 100 years ago, hundreds of millions of children have benefited from opportunities for adventure, skill building, leadership, personal development, and community service provided by scouting organizations.

All members are invited to our next Club meeting at Philatex on November 6th. There will be some rare and unusual displays shown and narrated by their proud owners, so you can learn a lot from them as well as adding to your own collections too from the many dealer's stands.

You will recall that in my last "John's Jottings" I wrote about the Nigeria 1963 World Jamboree Miniature sheet with the red printing omitted on the 3d value. Since then our member Fredrick Lawrence from the U.S. has written to say "You might recall, that Barry Mann (the US Scout stamp dealer) sold a purported example of this "error" quite a few years ago, back when he ran full page advertisements in the SOSSI Journal - so that would have been in the 1980s or 1990s. It was sent to the American Philatelic Expertising Service (APEX) for review, which found that it was faked, with the red color chemically removed. Barry of course took it back, and then resold it through a second advertisement, this time as a fake accompanied by the APEX certificate".

I have recently returned from Kraków in Poland, having been invited to attend the celebrations for their Scout Centenary.

The camp was held in the large park in the city with some 8500 attending, not only from Poland but a number of overseas countries, including the U.K. The main celebrations took place throughout the city during the first weekend, when they virtually took over the largest and second largest squares with displays of Scouting, and activities on the stages



that were erected in both areas. The city was 'flooded' with Scouts in uniform and was most impressive. Not only did these displays take place, but there were exhibitions in five other parts of the city including at an art gallery, library and museum. It was at the 1913 Scout Rally in Birmingham that the only guests from abroad, were some 42 Scouts from Poland.

Baden-Powell had a good relationship with Andrzej Malkowski, the founder of Scouting in Poland, who wrote a book about the Rally entitled *Jak Skauci Praguja*. It was in 1910 that he translated *Scouting for Boys* into Polish. Andrzej Malkowski died at the age of 30 in 1919 while on a mission for the Polish Army.

Earlier this month I attended the 15<sup>th</sup> Chris Hollingham Scout and Guide Badge, B-P, and Scout Memorabilia Meeting at Midhurst in West Sussex. This was well attended and has become very popular. Since the Gilwell Reunion organizers do not encourage any trade by collectors, I know that some people from abroad are going to attend this event on 27-28 August 2011 instead of the Reunion. On the Friday night most of those attending go to a local pub and on the Saturday there is the buffet and social gathering. The Gilwell Reunion is of course no longer a Wood Badge Reunion, but open to anybody who can afford to pay. I am afraid that much

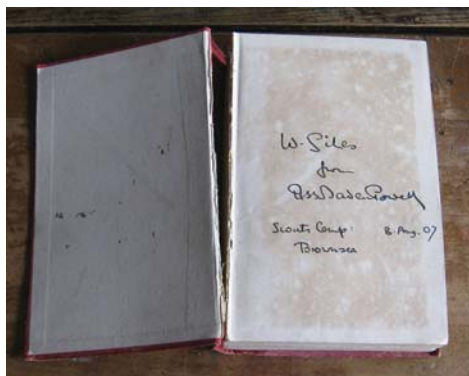
of the atmosphere of years gone by has simply disappeared. I am not the only person who thinks this, and the main reason for the event, in my opinion is to raise money. Many people who used the Lid now have to pay £50 on a Saturday between 1000-1600 hours instead of £25 last year. They have priced out all the stalls up the Essex Chase and the International Badgers Club are no longer allowed to have sales tables. People miss this as there is no programme on Thursday and Friday so they like to browse in this area.



I know that I am intruding into Colin Walker's "Colin's Corner" but as I have very little philatelic news to report, I thought I would give details about a cigarette card sold by Warwick & Warwick earlier this month. It was a Lambert & Butler card issued in 1901 of Colonel Baden-Powell titled "The King of Scouts", a name given to him way before Scouting started in 1908. It is from a set of only one card and was described in good condition without faults and catalogued by Murray Cards at £400. This card made £220 (about US\$ 330, € 264) plus 15% buyers premium.

As I write these notes, it is still holiday time in the northern hemisphere, and that could be the reason why I have not seen any unusual Scout philatelic items for sale on eBay. However, a Baden-Powell item that was sold did interest me. As you may well know, B-P held the first 'experimental' Boy Scout camp on Brownsea

Island between the 25<sup>th</sup> July and 9<sup>th</sup> of August 1907. A total of 22 boys and 3 leaders were present, and on 8<sup>th</sup> August, some, if not all of the boys were given a book to commemorate their involvement in the camp. The book which was sold on eBay, was called 'The Story of A Scout' by John Finnemore and published in 1902. The front flyleaf is signed in fountain pen by B-P. The full inscription reads. "W. Giles from RSS Baden Powell Scout Camp: 8. Aug. 07 Brownsea". The book was presented to Walter Giles, who was 14 at the time of the camp and who later became a baker in adult life, and finally passed away in 1969. The book had one major flaw as the front (cover) board has split away from the remainder of the book. The seller of the book purchased it from the Children's Book Shop in Hay-On-Wye around 1984/85, and although we do not know what he paid for this, it sold for £3200 (about US\$4800 €3840)



## A CENTENNIAL MISSED ?

By Paul van Herpt

1<sup>st</sup> August 1907 is a nice obvious date from which to measure Scouting's origins. It being the date for the start of the experimental camp on Brownsea Island at which Baden-Powell tried his various theories on interesting and useful activities for boys. As we head into 2010 and we are expecting a number of philatelic issues relating to the Centenary of Guiding, is a start date for our sister organisation quite so clear cut ?

In 2008 Girl Guiding New Zealand published a book, "Ambitious Fun" written by Carol Dawber. While not claiming to cover 100 years of Guiding or be part of a centennial celebration, the book certainly covers 100 years of Guiding history.

In the book's opening paragraph it refers to Robert Baden-Powell, the Crystal Palace Rally, girls turning out with the boys and Agnes Baden-Powell being seconded to assist her brother in setting up an organisation for the girls. It then goes on;

*"But in the distant British Dominion of New Zealand, where women had been the first in the world to vote, things happened slightly differently. Boy Scouts were organised in New Zealand by Major David Cossgrave, a schoolteacher and member of the voluntary defence force, and in 1908 he started girl scouts as well. For the next 15 years, while girl guides were getting established in Britain and spreading throughout the rest of the empire, a totally independent girls' organisation flourished as the forerunner of the Girl Guides Association of New Zealand"*

David Cossgrave was the son of Scottish migrants to New Zealand, arriving 1859 and originally settling in the southern province of Otago. In his adult life he was a teacher in Otago first, in the small settlement of Mahe-no, then to Westport on the South Island's West Coast to teach in the High School before crossing the Southern Alps again and settling in Tu-ahiwi, a small settlement between the towns of Kaiapoi and Rangiora (both now on the northern urban fringes of Christchurch city.) There he ran the small Native school which was associated with the main Ngai





Tahu (Maori tribe name) marae (settlement/meeting house/headquarters) which was in Tuahiwi. He was also a member of the Voluntary Defence Force as were many other early settlers, which was in place in New Zealand prior to the setting up of a permanent defence force. He was a volunteer member of the 6<sup>th</sup> Contingent of the Otago Mounted Rifles that went to South Africa and fought in the Boer War. Cossgrove was married and had 7 children, 3 boys and 4 girls.

Cossgrove is not credited with starting Scouting in New Zealand, but rather he is the man who organised it into a nationwide organisation. The first Scout Patrol was formed in 1908 in Kaiapoi, close to where he lived, and a German immigrant known as Ted Mallasch was their leader. Other patrols were also being formed in Christchurch and Auckland. Cossgrove spent his time writing to newspapers to spread the details of Scouting throughout New Zealand and set up the Dominion Boy Scouts as an organisation in its own rights. Not surprisingly, he also came under pressure from his youngest daughter, Muriel, to organise the same for the girls.

His response was to set up a section in his organisation for Peace Scouts which was then for the girls. We then had the Dominion Boy Scouts and Peace Scouts which was largely run by the Cossgrove family from their home in Tuahiwi. For the Peace Scouts, Cossgrove wrote his own handbook and created the whole range of items including uniforms, badges, rules etc, all a mixture of Baden-Powell's writings mixed with his own educational experiences and aspirations. The earliest Peace Scouts were enrolled in 1908, and by 1910 already numbered some 300 girls.

It did not finish there either, as Cossgrove set up Fairy Scouts in 1918 as a section before Peace Scouts, and Bull Pups (before Scouts) and Empire Sentinels (after Scouts). In each case these sections were up and running in New Zealand before Baden-Powell had equivalents within the Scouting Movement in the UK.

How much liaison there was between Cossgrove and Baden-Powell is not that clear, some correspondence survives. There is correspondence between them as early as 1 June 1909 regarding girls in Scouts. Irrespective, girls were organised into a scouting like organisation in New Zealand as early as 1908.

Cossgrove died in 1920 with his organisation well established for both boys and girls. However, there was plenty of parochial in fighting particularly between the north and the south, Auckland and Christchurch. Cossgrove had his headquarters in Christchurch and Auckland tended to object to some of his rules. The Dominion Boy Scouts had their own em-



blem which included fern leaves (our nation emblem), there were other specific New Zealand awards as well as Peace Scouts. Fairy Scouts and Bull Pups each with their own uniforms, badges and awards. However, as migration from the UK to New Zealand continued, people who had been involved in Scouting in the UK arrived

here with different ideas based on their experiences with the Baden-Powell organised Boy Scouts Association or Girl Guides.



In 1923 it was agreed that Girl Guides in the Dominion would become part of Guiding in the UK and the Peace Scouts became Girl Guides, changing from khaki to blue uniforms with a new Auckland based organisation being set up to run them separately from the Christchurch based Boy Scouts. In addition Bull Pups became Wolf Cubs, and went from khaki to green uniforms, but obviously within the Scouting organisation. From 1923 onwards, New Zealand was more under the control of Imperial Headquarters in London for its Scouting and similarly with Guiding and all unique badges disappeared and those in use throughout the British Commonwealth were adopted.

So what is the missed centennial ? Well in theory, New Zealand Guiding should have celebrated its centennial in 2008, when the first Peace Scouts were invested, but of course it is a little difficult to do that two years ahead of everyone else !

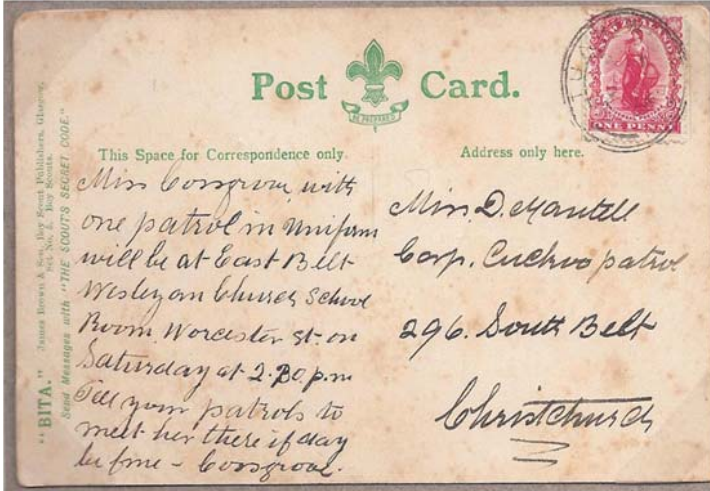
From a philatelic perspective, there are a number of items that can be used to show this story. Cossgrove featured on the New Zealand 2007 Centenaries set 50c Scout stamp and the fern leaf badge that was in use prior to 1923 is depicted on it. In 1953 Scouts and Guides were depicted on the annual New Zealand health stamp issue. Some covers used to FDC purposes have cachets referring to the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and a Cinderella from the same year has the date 1923-1953. The anniversary here only covers the period of strict Girl Guiding. Jump to 1983 and there are a number of meter slogans from Guide Headquarters in Christchurch and Guides Shops





in Wellington and Auckland to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary indicating a 1908 commencement.

There is a postcard from 1909, postmarked Tuahiwi, and signed by Cossgrove, in which he is arranging for a visit by Miss Cossgrove's GPS (Girl Peace Scout) patrol to another patrol in nearby Christchurch, as evidence of girls in scouting activity prior to 1910.



In addition, the correspondence referred to in this article can be seen on the web-

site [www.nz museums.co.nz](http://www.nz museums.co.nz), under search for a museum put National Scout Museum. Downloading onto this site from the NSM collection is still at its early stages and more will get added during 2010.



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 Club Badges and other souvenir items are available from the Membership Secretary.

- Metal Pin Badges @ £1.00 each, Epoxy Pin Badges @ £1.00 each,
- Cloth Blanket Badge @ £1.00 each, Leather Woggles @ £1.25 each

## Flying Scouts?

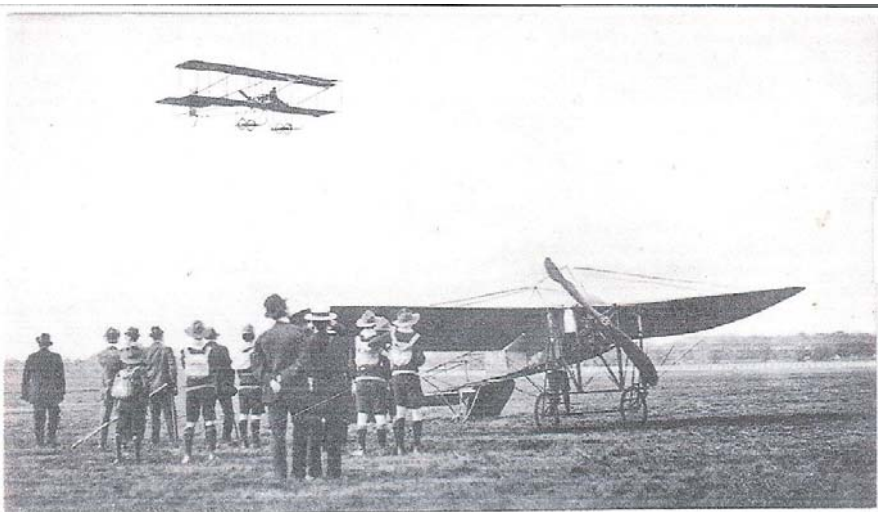
by Melvyn Gallagher

Although the first powered flight took place in 1903 in the U.S.A. It was not until around 1906 that the initial aero pioneers started flying around in Europe, so aeroplanes were still very much a novelty when the first Boy Scouts appeared. Any early flight was a major event and the early Scouts were keen to get involved as can be seen on these two postcards

One (below) shows a group of Boy Scouts watching Mr Claude Graham White in flight in one of his own planes. He is important to philatelists being the first man to carry air mail, flying from Hendon to Windsor, and the first to fly at night as well as winning the “Gordon Bennett” air race in 1910. The aeroplane on the ground appears to be a Bleriot model similar to the machine that first flew the English Channel in 1909.

The other card (on the back cover) pictures a group of Boy Scouts from Goes in the Netherlands with a pilot and aeroplane dated 1911. The pilot is Adriaan Mulder who was the first Dutch pilot to qualify and receive their flying licence on 15th February, 1911. This card has an advertisement for 5-6th June so an aeroplane was still a rare sight and the cutting edge of technology.

Another early flying pioneer was B-P's brother Baden Baden-Powell who bought and flew a balloon back in 1880 and in 1894 made the first British military balloon flight. He developed man carrying kites, gliders and built a powered aircraft. Later some of his plans for kites and model aircraft were used by Boy Scouts to learn about flying and were printed in Scouting publications. It was not until 1941 that Air Scouting began in the U.K. Enabling Scouts to fly instead of watching planes go by.



Mr. Claude Grahame White in flight.

## 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 50p for 1<sup>st</sup> class post (any packets weighing over 100 gr will be sent by 2<sup>nd</sup> class post). Overseas 90p for stamp orders only, covers/cards orders £1.35.

### STAMPS FROM STOCK (UMOUNTED MINT WHERE POSSIBLE)

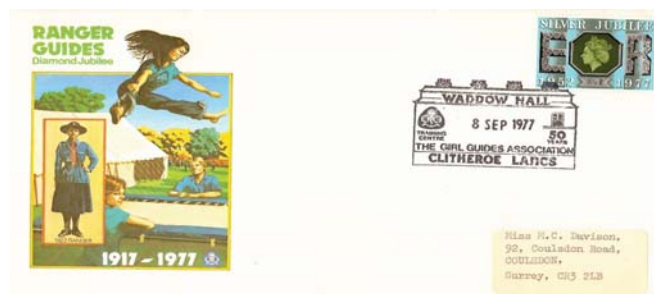
NIC49 NICARAGUA 1949 Baseball series Scout 2c value (1)	0.30
CUB54 CUBA 1954 3 <sup>rd</sup> National Camp (1)	0.45
IRN56 IRAN 1956 National Jamboree (2)	8.00
KOR57 KOREA 1957 50 Years of World Scouting (2)	1.50
LN57 LIECHTENSTEIN 1957 50 Years of World Scouting (2)	1.00
SYR58 SYRIA 1958 3 <sup>rd</sup> Pan Arab Jamboree (2)	2.25
TWN59 TAIWAN 1959 10 <sup>th</sup> World Jamboree (3)	2.20
VN59 VIETNAM 1959 1 <sup>st</sup> National Jamboree (4)	7.00
IRN60 IRAN 1960 3 <sup>rd</sup> National Jamboree (2)	0.60
TUN60 TUNISIA 1960 4 <sup>th</sup> Pan Arab Jamboree (5)	1.75
COL62 COLOMBIA 1962 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Boy Scouts + 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Girl Scouts (5)	2.00
MAV63 MALDIVES 1963 11 <sup>th</sup> World Jamboree (4)	0.60
EGT64 EGYPT 1964 6 <sup>th</sup> Pan Arab Jamboree (2)	0.45
YMN64 YEMEN 1964 Boy Scouts commemorative (9)	3.00
YMN64S YEMEN 1964 Boy Scouts commemorative 2 x MS	6.00
PAR65A PARAGUAY 1965 International Patrol Camp – 5 low values	0.25
SAU67 SAUDI ARABIA 1967 2 <sup>nd</sup> Arabic & Islam Rover Moot (5)	8.00
MAL67 MALI 1967 12 <sup>th</sup> World Jamboree triptych	1.25
MAV68 MALDIVES 1968 12 <sup>th</sup> World Jamboree overprints (4)	3.00
PHL70 PHILIPPINES 1970 Tourist Issue showing Scout Memorial (1)	0.18
LBY74 LIBYA 1974 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting (3)	3.50
MEX76 MEXICO 1976 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting (1)	0.12
LN81 LIECHTENSTEIN 1981 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting (1)	0.25
STP82 St.THOMAS & PRINCE IS. 1982 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World Scouting (2)	2.00
MLT93 MALTA 1993 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Award of Bronze Cross to Scouts & Guides (4)	2.00
<u>BOOKLETS</u> CZ91B CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1991 80 Years of Scouting – Booklet of 5	1.50
DK84B DENMARK 1984 Honouring Scouts & Guides – Booklet of 10	6.00
LES82B LESOTHO 1982 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World Scouting – Booklet 2 x 5 stamps + MS	6.00
THL82B THAILAND 1982 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World Scouting – Booklet of 4	0.90
<u>LABELS</u> DK71L DENMARK 1971 Scouts Good Turn (1)	0.12
DK82L DENMARK 1982 Scouts Good Turn (1)	0.12
GER57L GERMANY 1957 “We Are Brothers” Label from BDP Scouts (1)	0.20
ICE62L ICELAND 1962 strip of 5 labels commemorating Scouts & Guides	0.60
LIT46L LITHUANIAN SCOUTS IN EXILE 1946 3 x Camp Post stamps	5.00
USA67L U.S.A. 1967 12 <sup>th</sup> World Jamboree (1)	0.10
NL90X NETHERLANDS 1990 Scouts Christmas Post stamp (1)	0.40
NL93X NETHERLANDS 1993 Scouts Christmas Post stamps (block of 10 different)	4.00
NL95X NETHERLANDS 1995 Scouts Christmas Post stamps (2 – including B-P)	0.80
NL96X NETHERLANDS 1996 Scouts Christmas Post stamps (6 – sketches by B-P)	2.40
<u>POSTCARDS</u> NL-A NETHERLANDS Comic postcard of Scouts with goat (approx 1959) – used	1.20
NL-B NETHERLANDS Comic postcard of Scouts with chicken (approx 1959) – used	1.20
NL-C NETHERLANDS Koempoelaan Camp 1991 postcard showing Scout badge & handshake	0.40
NL-D NETHERLANDS Pack of 9 cards – designs by lino-cut – from Twente Oost District	3.00

## The Homes of Guiding.

**Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hampshire** In 1922 The Girl Guides were given a house in the New Forest, Foxlease, with 65 acres of land by Mrs Archbold Sanderson. Money was needed though for the upkeep. On the 28th February, 1922 Princess Mary, who was President of the Girl Guide Association married, and the money collected by all the Marys in the Empire, £6000 was donated towards the upkeep of the house. An exhibition of Wedding Presents followed and a further £4000 was donated. This is why an additional name of Princess Mary house was added. The first world camp was held in the grounds in 1924. This was a great opportunity for Guides from all over the world. In May 1962 the 40th Anniversary a week-end camp for Guiders was held, the coldest May week-end on record. This was visited by HRH Princess Royal, who arrived in a red helicopter. During WWII it was used by 56 school boys for two weeks, The Army, Youth Clubs and British Guiders came to trainings. Christmas parties for Guiders and their Mothers and Fathers.



**Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancashire.** By 1927 it was felt there was a need for another training centre in the North of England, following the success of Foxlease. After looking at houses Waddow Hall, was decided on. Imperial Headquarters guaranteed the rent for the first year for which time Waddow was taken on a lease with the option to purchase. There is a painting on wood of Waddow in the 17th Century. Response from letters sent to the northern counties by the committee, came to furnish



rooms, also from British Columbia, New South Wales, and many other places round the world. On the 28th September, 1927 all was in readiness for the arrival of The Chief Guide Lady Baden-Powell, and Commissioners who attended the first training week. The official opening took place on the 1st October, 1927 by HRH Princess Royal.



After the first year it had proved popular and the decision was made to purchase using the money raised in the north of England, Scotland and IHQ. The deeds were sealed on 16th October, 1928 for the house and 157 acres of land much of which is let for grazing, but available for camping. During WWII Waddow became a childrens hospital.

**Netherurd House, Peebleshire, Scotland.** There has been a house on the site since 1398. In 1942 Major E.G. Thomson, became the owner and gave it to the Scottish Guides to be used as a Training Centre. At first in December, 1933 given at the purely nominal rent of 2s. 6d. (12½p) per year. And since March 1952, when Major Thomson offered it outright as the property of the Girl Guide Association, to who it was transferred at Whitsunday, 1952. The first training held at Netherurd was on the 7th/8th April, 1945 and from 1946 training has continued there with steadily increasing number until the present day.



**Broneirion, Llandinam, Montgomeryshire, Wales.** The house was opened on the 24th May, 1947, situated in the valley of the Severn 10 miles for the source on Plynlymon. The Brownie House Ybwythyn Bach – the same name given to the house given by the people of Wales to Princess Elizabeth. The tables and benches in the dining room are the craftsmanship of “Mousey” Thompson – signature – a mouse is carved on to each piece of furniture. These were bought with the allocation to Wales from the Baden-Powell fund.



In 1992 the Landlord Lord Davies, the son of Lady (Eldrydd) Davis, who was President of the Guides of Wales, made it known that

Broneirion would have to be sold. The decision was made to buy and an appeal was made and with the help from many outside organisations the money raised was enough for an endowment fund to help with the repairs and renovations. The official opening by Mrs. Betty Clay, daughter of The Founder and The World Chief Guide on the 28th June, 1993. In 1996 it became a Grade II listed building along with the coach house and lodge.

**Lorne, Craigavad, Co. Down. Northern Ireland.** The house built in 1864 belonged to Mr. Henry Campbell. He died with no immediate family and all his property was sold and the proceeds used to fund either a school or a hospital. The house was sold and eventually taken over by the Guides on the 4th June, 1947. It is equipped for 30 people. In the 20 acres of land there is a Brownie House and the Irene McKibbin Cottage built in memory of an Ulster Guider, used by Rangers and equipped for 12 people. There are five campsites.

**The Guide Club. 46 Belgrave Square, London.** This was opened in 1949 for members to stay while visiting London. It closed on the 23rd December, 1976. A notice appeared in the Daily telegraph asking people who had lent furniture and effects to the club, who wish their property to be returned, are asked to contact The Secretary. Unclaimed items will otherwise be sold.

## Centres of World Guiding.

**Our Ark – 11 and 13 Palace Street, London SW1.** A hostel for any member of WAGGGS. Officially opened on the 2nd May, 1939 by Lady Mayoress of the City of London. In 1952 the Friends of Our Ark were formed, partly to raise money and of course for friendship. On the 25th March, 1959 it moved to 45 Longbridge Road, London SW5 and renamed Olive House on the 5th November, 1963.



**Our Chalet – Adelboden, Switzerland.** In 1929 when the World Committee met in Holland it was felt there was a need for a World Guide meeting place. Immediately Mrs. Helen Storrow, an American said she would like to give it, on condition it was in Switzerland. A committee was set up and after a long search a site was found on a hillside opposite the town of Adelboden. Our Chalet was built and finally opened by the Chief Guide on 31st July, 1932.





Since then it has been used continuously for skiing in winter and walking and other outdoor activities in the summer by Guides from the world over. WWII it was closed to the usual visitors, but used to help re-unite refugees and their families. In 1999 a new chalet style house “Spycher” (traditional name for barn) provides extra guest accommodation, conference facilities and office space.

**Our Cabana – Cuernavaca, Mexico.** The idea of a Guide retreat in the Western hemisphere was born on a training session in Cuba in 1946, and was approved by the World Committee six years later. Countries in the Americas were considered and finally the centre opened on the 24th July, 1957. It was ready to be dedicated by The Bishop of Cuernavaca on Thinking Day, 1956 attended by Lady Baden-Powell, and other dignitaries. She gave a vision of what this new centre could mean to the Guides and Girl Scouts of the World. Many gifts were given, but as a birthday present for the World Chief Guide the Western Hemisphere sub Committee members gave the front door, now known as The Chief’s Door, the main entrance. The centre is famous for the arts and crafts sessions.



**Sangam, Poona, Maharashtra, India** Opened on the 16th October, 1966, by



Lady Olave Baden-Powell. It is situated on the banks of the Mula River, 120 miles

from Mumbai. The world Sangam means ‘coming together’ in the ancient language of Sanskrit. This made a perfect title for a World Centre when the World Committee were looking to build a centre in the Asia Pacific region. It stipulated that it must be easily accessible by air, bus and train, have a climate which allows its use all year round and should be strongly supported by the local guiding movement. Bids also came from Australia, Pakistan and the Philippines. The centre is a safe neutral place for members of Guiding and Scouting to come together to share their homelands and member organisations. The appeal for money brought an overwhelming response from WAGGGS member countries . The cover is dated the last day of my visit.

**The Olave Centre houses the World Bureau, and Pax Lodge.** In 1957

at the World Conference in Brazil to mark the centenary of the birth of the Founder, an appeal was launched by Olave Baden-Powell to ‘keep the World’s heart beating’. On her birthday she received a gift of actual bricks, inscribed with the

amounts collected in each place, which were built into models of the new premises. to provide a new house for both the World



Bureau and Our Ark. Following WWII London had been divided into residential and business zones, therefore the two could not be together. In the meantime Our Ark moved and was renamed, and so did the World Bureau.

Fittingly, the Hon Betty Clay, daughter of Robert & Olave Baden-Powell laid the foundation stone of the current World Centre, Pax Lodge in 1989. A year later the building at Hampstead, opened its doors. And the official opening was on 15th March, 1991 by HRH The Princess Benedikte of Denmark.

## World Chief Guide - Lady Baden Powell

Olave, St. Clair Soames, born 22nd February, 1889, Stubblings Court, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire. England was the youngest of three children. She loved country life and her pet animals. She never went to school, educated by her parents and a succession of governesses. Her diary of 1909 records the frustrations of a young woman refused admission to a career in nursing. In 1912 her life changed completely. Her father took her on a cruise to the West Indies, the journey of her 'waking up and being a person'. She met Robert Baden Powell, 'the only one interesting person on board... the Boy Scout man'.



Although 32 years younger they were united by mutual interests, a similar attitude to life, and a common birthday. After a brief courtship mainly carried out by correspondence the couple were engaged in September that year and married on 30th October, at Parkstone Church, Dorset. Disappointed or not 100,000 Scouts gave one penny each to give their Founder and his bride a Rolls-Royce as a wedding present. Later nicknamed "Jam Roll" They had three children, Peter – 1913. Heather – 1915 and Betty – 1917.

Olave Baden-Powell was enrolled as Guide in 1915 and contributed a tremendous amount to the growth of Guiding in the United Kingdom and overseas. She travelled with the Founder and has been five time round the world visiting Scouts and Guides on the way. In 1916 Lady Baden-Powell was appointed County Commissioner for Sussex, where they were living – Ewhurst Place, their first home together. Then later that year Chief Commissioner in October, and 1918 Chief Guide. At the County Commissioners' Conference at Swanwick she was presented with the Gold Fish, subscribed for by 95 County Commissioners. With the Founder she travelled world wide visiting Scouts & Guides.

The family lived at Pax Hill, Bentley, Hampshire, until WWII when they moved to Kenya, where in 1941 The Founder, Lord Baden-Powell died. Lady Baden Powell returned to England and was given a Grace & Favour Home at Hampton Court as Pax Hill was then being used by Canadian Soldiers during the war. She then continued her Guiding roll as World Chief Guide visiting Guides world wide. Lady Olave Baden Powell died 25th June, 1977.

The Founder and World Chief Guide have the only joint memorial in Westminster Abbey.

## The Guide Centennial

In response to our editor's appeal for articles to reflect this important event I propose to devote this 'Corner' not to the Girl Guides themselves, but their predecessors, the Girl Scouts. The main reason for the cut off at the formation of the GG, is that I am a Scout Historian and I know my place! There are others far more qualified to write about Girl Guides than I, not least our own Margaret Davison, whose series on the Guide Centennial continues to be such a delight. My researches then have been confined to the short period of time when Girl Scouts existed. This led to the discovery that they (Girl Scouts) were the cause of one of the earliest and biggest 'cover ups' ever to be perpetuated by the Scout and Guide Associations. 'Misinformation' from these times concerning the status of Girl Scouts, continues to persist to the present day.



In Scout and Guide Histories it is often stated that the girls who dressed as Scouts were aping their brothers and that they were totally unofficial. Nothing could be further than the truth, but before proceeding with the facts it might be as well to look at why this myth should have been perpetuated for so long. The Guide Association was effectively launched in the 1909 November Issue of Headquarters Gazette under the banner *The Scheme for Girl Guides – A suggestion for character training for girls*. There followed a whole page giving the

*Reasons for the Institution of Girl Guides; How to Start the Scheme*; plus information about its uniform, training and organisation, but there was no mention of the prior existence of Girl Scouts. Why not? The new Movement (Girl Guides) needed to begin on 'a high' with a clean sheet, not an admission that girls had already been accepted into the Scout Movement, but this was now seen as a failure requiring the introduction of the new Movement.

Though Baden-Powell's original vision was 'Scouting for Boys' – he had quickly been alerted to the fact that girls as well as boys wanted to take part. Headquarters Gazette for 1908/1909 is full of references to the official nature of Girl Scouts. In the May 16<sup>th</sup> 1908 Baden-Powell wrote that he had several letters from girls asking if they too could take part. He replied that of course girls should get as much fun and as much value out of Scouting as boys and, referring to a recent Scout Competition on Wimbledon Common, stated that he had seen girls;

... who had proved themselves to be good Scouts in a very short time. He concluded, *As for pluck, women and girls can be just as brave as men, and have over and over again proved it in times of danger.*

B-P confirmed that girls could be Scouts in the July 25<sup>th</sup> edition of *The Scout*;

...*there are already many girl Scouts and successful ones too.*

Having received this ‘seal of approval’, girls formed themselves into patrols and in their own approximation of Scout uniform that followed the template for Scouting laid down in *Scouting for Boys*.

Two weeks later, *The Scout* described the competition on Wimbledon Common between Putney and Hampstead Scouts attended by B-P. The competition had visitors from the Wolf Patrol of Fulham and also *several Girl Scouts wearing their badges*. These badge-earning Guides were justification for B-P’s assertion that girls could make good Scouts.



In *The Scout* magazine of July 25<sup>th</sup> 1908, an unnamed writer, but most probably B-P himself, answered readers’ questions,

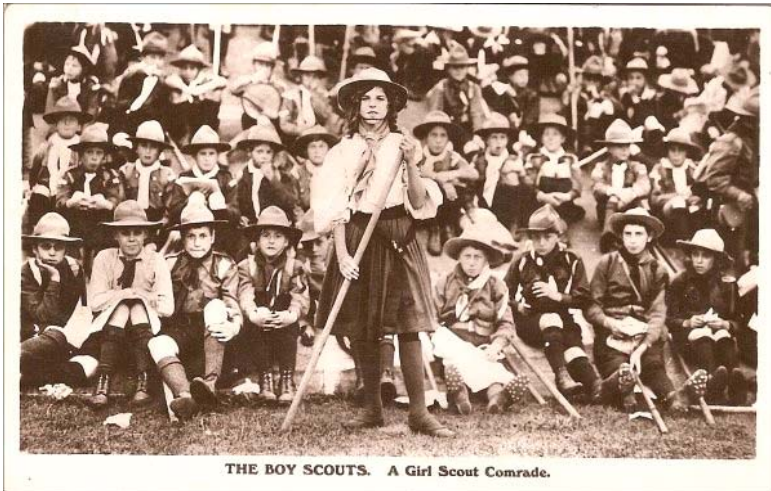
Let us tell Mary, Isobel and Mr Ferguson that there are already many Girl Scouts and successful ones too. They enter all the games and practices with zest, and exhibit as much intelligence, courage and reliability in performing their work as any of their masculine companions.

A modern day feminist could really want for little more. Girl Scouts were being praised by the Founder, who, it must be remembered, was a product of the Victorian era and had spent nearly all of his life, at school and in the army, in an all male environment. His views on female equality, as far as Scouting was concerned, like his views on social class, were revolutionary,

*Girls must be partners and comrades, not dolls.*

At the Crystal Palace Rally on September 4<sup>th</sup> 1909 Baden-Powell, when inspecting his Boy Scouts, noticed a patrol of Girl Scouts in the crowd. The girls pleaded to be allowed to take part and they were permitted to join in the ‘March Past’. Veteran Girl Scout Sybil Cardine (now deceased) recalled her memories of the event on the recent Guiding Centennial TV documentary.





The Chief Scout again made mention of Girls Scouts in the September 12<sup>th</sup> 1908 edition of the *The Scout*,

*I have had several pathetic letters from little girls asking me if they may not share the delights of a Scouting life with the boys. But of course they may. I am always glad of Girls' Patrols being formed. ... There is no reason why girls should not study Scoutcraft and earn their badges just as boys do, and the more the merrier.*

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of *Scouting for Boys*, 1909, B-P suggested that Girl Scouts might wear the Scout blue, khaki or grey shirt with blue skirt and knickers.



Miss Mildred Thomlinson of Clifton near Brighouse wrote to *The Scout* to ask for advice and her letter was printed in the 1908 September 19<sup>th</sup> edition. Miss Thomlinson stated that she was a P.L. of a Girl Scout Patrol and wanted to know if boys could become members of the same patrol. She was advised the boys could join, but should be placed in a different (all boys) patrol within the same group. There was after all a limit to the 'integration of the sexes'.

Any doubts that still persist in the official status of Girl Scouts must surely be dispelled by the announcement in the H.Q. Gazette of August 1909, which per-versely also announced their end.

*Girl Scouts.*

*Large numbers of these are registered at headquarters.... It is advisable that District and Local Associations should refer all registration of Girl Scouts to Headquarters, as a scheme is being prepared for them ....*

The scheme referred to was of course the formation of the Girl Guides but the admission of the existence of a 'large number' of registered Girl Scouts is proof enough of the status of Girl Scouts.

So why was it necessary to form the Girl Guide Movement to supersede Girl Scouts? It was certainly not any

failure in the girls themselves, or any lack of admiration of their achievements by the Founder. The testimonies left by Marguerite de Beaumont and her sister Elizabeth, Scotland's first Scout Girl Scout Alison Cargill and Sir Percy Everett's daughter Winn, amply display their badge earning capacity and their tenacity in being involved in all Scouting activities.



Concern about girls being involved in what understandably was perceived as a boy organisation came from the Middle and Upper classes whose children were never allowed to mix educationally or indeed socially without the greatest of supervision and this was supported by some

churchmen. This criticism however was unorganised and by itself would not in itself brought about the demise of Girl Scouting.

More structured opposition came from Mrs Violet Markham, a committee member of the 'Anti Suffrage League', who wrote in the influential *Spectator* magazine;

*Girls are not boys and the training that develops manly qualities in one may lead to the negation of womanliness in the other.*

Her main motivation for opposing Girl Scouts was bound up in her opposition to female emancipation. These young pole-carrying, broad-hatted young ladies in Scouting were being treated in total equality with their brothers. They were, Mrs Markham must have thought, unlikely when older to agree to be subservient to them on the issue of the right to vote. Boy and Girl Scouts maintained Miss Markham,

*...roam the countryside together, arriving home late and doing who knows what.*

Her campaign was organised and sustained but may not have been the final nail in the coffin, Baden-Powell as we know was heavily influenced by his mother who born in 1824, five years after Queen Victoria, had unsurprisingly very Victorian attitudes. The fate of Girl Scouting was sealed.

During the short time that they did exist however, Girl Scouts made some impact on the ephemera of the day. There are Girl Scouts postcards some of which are displayed above, also scraps and photographs in contemporary books, not least the 1909 Brown and Son publication, *Boy Scout Life Book* which has many images of Girl Scouts including that illustrated in this article.

There is link between the philatelic commemorations of the Girl Guide Movement and Girl Scouts that I am quite proud to have had a hand in myself. I was asked to be involved in the production of several Scout issues for the 2007 Scouting Centennial one of which was for the Ascension Islands. This led to a similar involvement in the Guiding centennial. I provided signed images of B-P, Olave and B-P's sister Agnes whom he asked to lead the Girl Guide Movement as being the people most central to the Guiding story. The images may not in themselves shout Girl Scouting however the stamps can only be obtained as a sheetlet which is 'decorated' with a number of Girl Scout images also from my collection. The 'stiffener' for the First Day Cover (illustrated on the back cover) is the official Government press release for the issue, written by me, to demonstrate that origins of the Girl Guide Movement started with the official recognition of Girl Scouts in 1908.

A full account of the history of UK Girl Scouting is to be found in Colin's 'The Dawn of the World Scout Movement'.

# Scout and Guide Stamps Club

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First Day cover from Ascension Island commemorating the Centenary of Girl Guiding as referred to in Colin Walker's article in this issue.



Scouts from Holland with pioneer aviator - see article on page 10.