

# Scout and Guide Stamps Club

# BULLETIN

Volume 55 No. 4 (Whole No. 318)



SEE ITEM ON  
PAGE 3

JULY / AUGUST 2011



## Editorial

As I sit writing this Editorial the News is dominated by the awful killings in Norway and I'm sure that we all send our condolences to the relatives of all those who died, especially the youngsters who were at the summer camp. It does emphasise the trust that parents put in all of us who are Leaders within Scouting, even if the camp is only on a local campsite, and also the responsibility that we assume in the same role.

At the present time large numbers of our Movement's members are heading towards Sweden to take part in the 22nd World Scout Jamboree. It doesn't seem like four years since everybody was here in Chelmsford for the 21st and even more amazing to think that its 20 years since I was part of the IST Team for the Jamboree in Korea. I hope that all those attending will have a great time and will make lasting friendships that will endure, possibly for the rest of their lives. Once again we seem to find in the UK that the publicity is all given to the forthcoming Olympics and very little to the WJ - even if it is a far bigger event - but I suppose that's real life!

I hope that you all have a good summer (or winter as appropriate) and that something from Sweden finds its way into your collection.

Terry Simister

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

**TimReed** 10, Falconwood Close, Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 1TB  
(Tel: 01425-650961) e-mail:-tim.p.reed@btinternet.com

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

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### **FUTURE COPY DATES**

September 10th and November 12th.

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

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

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

5<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at Philatex

Committee Meeting:12.45- 13.15; Open Meeting: 13.15 -14.45

Philatex is held at the Royal Horticultural Society Hall, 80 Vincent Square , London SW1P 2PE. This is within easy walking distance of St. James Park Underground Station. Entrance is free and there are the stands to look at as well.

## Chairman's Notes

by Melvyn Gallagher

Back in September 2010 I wrote questioning the origins of the U.S.A. "Scouting" stamp issued that year. Randall Frank published an explanation in a later SOSSI Journal and member Frederick Oppliger from the U.S.A. Has written to me regarding this interesting issue. It seems that the U.S. Postal Service no longer recognise organisations on their stamps due to the vast number of requests that they receive. But occasionally they will "do" activities, things like Scouting. Although the the Scouting stamp coincided with the 100th Anniversary of the American Boy Scouts the manager of stamp development for the U.S. Postal Service said "It's not only Boy Scouts, but it's Girl Scouts, it's Camp Fire U.S.A. - it's all organisations that embody the ideals of scouting". The designer, Craig Frazier, was faced with a difficult challenge designing what we call a "fudge", a Scout stamps that is not a scout stamp!

His chosen design shows a "dual read" an image within an image, the figure suggesting a bygone era more romantic that historic.

Like many of you this summer I am taking my Scouts camping and some of you will no doubt be attending the World Jamboree, where I hope you will be able to obtain some philatelic souvenirs and I am sure that we shall see plenty of new issues linked to this event from many lands.

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### A NOTE FROM KEIICHIRO NOGUCHI OF NARA, JAPAN

A strange entire arrived from Mexico

Obviously made philatelically by the sender (I did not ask anything special from her, from whom I had just bought a block of 4 x 2010 Scout stamps on the internet market) bearing one Scout stamp with red FD cancellation (17 July, 2010) and a green rectangular cancellation (29 December 2010, hardly legible), one each Scout and Guide stamps tied with cancellation and an AR cachet.

On the back (of the envelope) one each Scout and Guide stamps both with green cancellations, a red FD cancellation between them (not tied with stamps), a registration label and an additional postage label.

What do you think of this?

Are any Mexican Post Offices allowed to use FD cancellations for normal mail, or for as much as five months after the proper date?

This was received on 27th January, 2011.



With modern technology in the printing world, we do not find many varieties on today's Scout stamps, and as far as I know, none have been recorded on the UK Scout issue of 2007 or the Guide Centenary stamps of last year. However in early May, the auction company Spink of London offered "Singapore 1974 (June) 9th Asia-Pacific Scout Conference 10c. showing major shift of gold to right, fine unmounted mint". Estimated at £150- £180, it made the top estimate price of £180 (€ 195 US\$ 280).

I read that the Gilwell Reunion is again open to all adult members, when of course it used to be a Wood Badge holders weekend. Things have changed considerably since I first attended in the 1950's when the only organised events were the Camp Fire and Scouts Own. In those days we went to meet old friends and make new ones. Today it is just a money raising event for Gilwell. Collectors such as myself are being squeezed out as in the past the International Badgers Club had an area where you could trade. This has been stopped, and so collectors have nowhere to acquire items for their collection. You can go into the Lid and pay £50 plus extras for a table and electricity for a stand for a few hours only on the Saturday. However all is not lost as Chris Hollingham has his superb Badge and memorabilia weekend at Midhurst on Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 August. This is a great event and is highly recommended. In fact some people no longer attend the Gilwell Reunion but just visit or stay over for this get-together with a Dinner on the Saturday night.

In the sale room, the auction house Cherrystone of New York City, USA sold two classic Mafeking items. The first was a reversed head Baden-Powell dated May 8<sup>th</sup> 1900, but with some poor perforations. This went very



cheaply at US\$ 12.500 (about £7800, €8580) when in the past they have gone for £25,000 or more. At the same sale was a pair of cyclist stamp with misplaced perforations which went for US\$ 3250 (£5200, €5760).

On a personal note I was very sad to read the last SOSSI magazine that Charlie Baty (a member of the SGSC for many years) from White River, South Africa had died last year from injuries resulting from an attack at his home. He was within a few days before leaving to settle in the USA where some of his family lived. When the Warner Goodyear memorial was unveiled at Randfontein some years ago, we met for the first time, and since then I had visited him at his home. He was a true gentleman and a great Scout.

## SCOUT HANDSTAMPS UP TO 1957 Part 7 by Peter Duck

The Netherlands were probably the first to produce philatelically related Scout handstamps, although I believe one might be a woodblock or lino print. Dutch Scouts who visited London in 1913 used a rubber stamp similar to a postmark reading PADVINDER-SKAMP 20-30 MRT.1913 LONDON. This has been seen printed onto the left side of postcards posted in London (I do not possess one!).



The second, also from 1913 reads PADVINDERS KAMP in two lines and was used at Ijmuinden in July of that year.

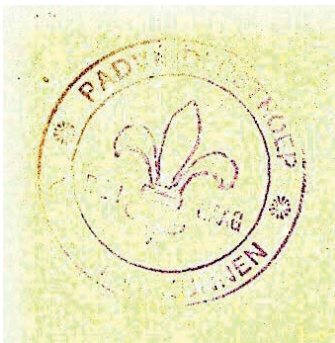
**PADVINDERS  
KAMP.**

VEREENIGING "DE NEDERLANDSCHE PADVINDERS" Afd. EINDHOVEN & a.g. with Scout badge

purple handstamp in 1917. Various similar handstamps were printed onto official mail, including



COMMISARIS VOOR BUITENLAND EN KOLONIEN N.P.V. (The Commissioner for Overseas & Colonial Scouting) and PADVINDERSTROEP (illegible) DEN HAAG, and DE NEDERL. PADVINDERS. AFD. APELDOORN GROEP. A straight line handstamp from NAT. KAMP 1932 (Wassenaar) is not very exciting!



At the 5<sup>th</sup> World Jamboree, Vogelenzang 1937, a few overseas contingents used handstamps, those in my collection are from Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark and Polish scouts from Danzig. Also sub-camp Woestduin and an oval Handstamp JAMBOREE 1937 X COMITE. Some postcards carry the handstamp of PADVINDER ARCHIEF on the reverse, but I believe this was printed later.



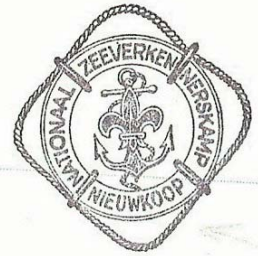




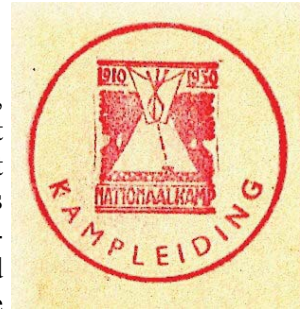
At the end of World War II the Dutch Scouts in many cities handled a certain amount of mail. Various cachets were used, and much has been written about this elsewhere.

An oval rubber stamp was used by ST. STANISLAUS-GROEP, HEEMSTEDE in 1949 and a couple of National sea Scout Camps produced handstamps with Sea Scout emblems which included an anchor. These are known from

Terhorne (1950) and Nieuwkoop (1954).



Many other camps and events were noted by handstamps, some of which appear to have been produced by the Scout Headquarters. At the National Camp, Ommen 1950, the Post Office used a "supplementary postmark" to cancel mail. This showed a tent and two Scout badges with text NATIONAALKAMP OMMEN 1910-1950 1 t/m 10 Aug. Regular dated postmarks of Ommen were used, but not normally on the stamps. A circular handstamp in red with Camp badge and KAMPLEIDING was also used.



Troop KEIZER-KAPEL used a green handstamp with dates 1911-1951 to commemorate their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Salvation Army Scouts Camp MOTONDO at Lunteren in 1952 produced a green handstamp showing a windmill.



### NATIONALE KOEMPOELAN

Camps took place annually, and I have handstamps from those of 1953 & 1954 at Lunteren, plus 1955 & 1956 at Ommen.





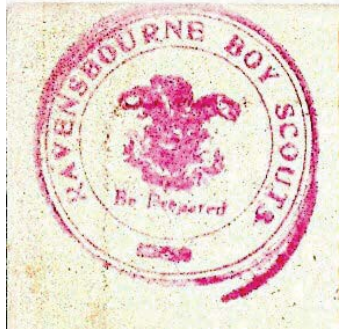
Job Weeks “n`Heitje voor n`Karweitje” appear to have started in 1954 and a handstamp showing a Scout and a Guide sweeping up coins was used to publicise the event. A National Air Scout Camp “De Prop”

took place at Ommen from 30 July to 6 August 1955, and a red oval handstamp was used.



First day covers of the Baden-Powell Centenary stamps from Netherlands Antilles in 1957 carried a circular handstamp with Scout badge reading NED.ANTILLEN 22 FEBR.1957 EERSTE DAG VAN UITGIFTE.

The earliest handstamp seen from New Zealand was used by RAVENSBOURNE BOY SCOUTS in approximately 1925,

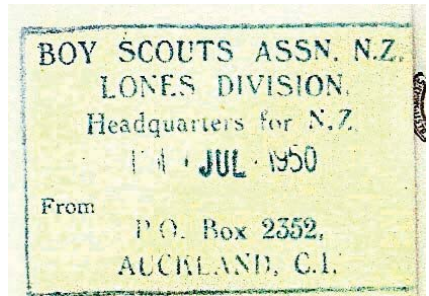


printed in purple it shows a rather dilapidated Scout badge (!). An octagonal cachet in green advertised the N.Z. Centennial Jamboree due to take place in 1940.



This event had to be cancelled due to the outbreak of World War II.

In 1950, the LONE SCOUTS ASSOCIATION N.Z. LONES DIVISION in Auckland were using a dated handstamp on their mail, mine is from July 1950.





A



Group No.1, San Jose, Nicaragua used a handstamp on mail posted in 1952. The circular stamp with Scout badge in centre reads: FEDERACION NAC.DE BOY SCOUTS (EXP)DE NICARAGUA – MANAGUA D.N. GRUPO No.1 “San Jose”.

LANDSLEIREN ROMSDALEN 1928 with design of a mountain peak, Scout badge, and MOT TOPPEN N.S.F.

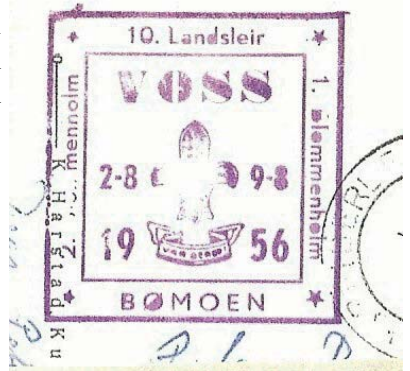


Norway produced a number of postmarks for many Scout and Guide camps from 1928, and at the earliest one, a circular rubber stamp was printed onto mail reading:

VAER BEREDT (Be Prepared) plus initials N.S.F. printed on the reverse. This letter must have been posted shortly before the Nazis invaded Norway and Scouts had to go into hiding.



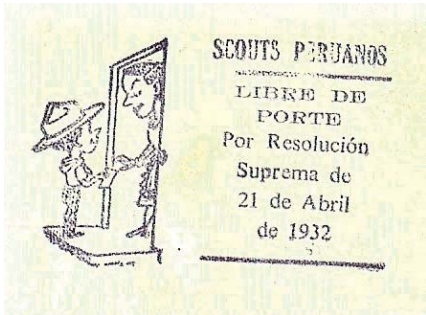
The 10<sup>th</sup> National Camp at Voss in August 1956 produced a square handstamp in purple, this showed a Scout badge with dates 2.8 – 9.8. 1956.



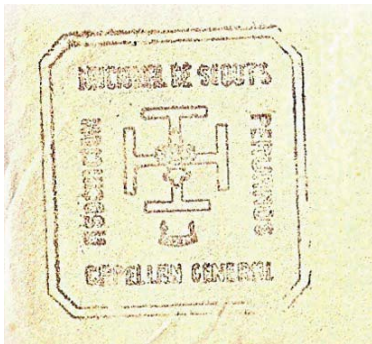
The General Headquarters of the Pakistan Boy Scout Association were using a circular hands-tamp on their mail in 1954. The design also includes the Pakistan Scout badge.



The Boy Scouts of Peru “Scouts Peruanos” were granted the privilege of free post by a law of 21 April 1932. This privilege was apparently a world-wide one, and I have envelopes addressed to Netherlands, Austria and England, as well as to Lima, Peru. In most cases there is no other postmark on the envelopes, so it is not always possible to date them. The handstamp used shows a Scout delivering a letter and text: SCOUTS



PERUANOS. LIBRE DE PORTE POR RESOLUCION SUPREMA DE 21 de ABRIL de 1932. Some of the envelopes also carry official cachets, from International Secretary and Public Relations Dept. One cover



which carries the square handstamp of the “Chaplain General” sent to London in 1957 actually had a postage label on it.

The Philippines issued their first Scout stamps in 1948 to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Scouting in the islands. First day covers carry a



red SILVER JUBILEE 1923 1948 SCOUTING IN THE PHILIPPINES cachet which appears on FDCs from all of the many Post Offices which used special postmarks for the stamp issue.

Their First National Jamboree in 1954 was also the subject of a stamp issue and once again all FDCs carry a red cachet FIRST NATIONAL BOY SCOUTS JAMBOREE. QUEZON CITY. APRIL 23-30, 1954. First day covers only appeared from Manila.



*Peter’s article will continue in a future Bulletin*

Message from Hallvard Slettebø

Dear Peter,

It is interesting to follow your series in the SGSC Bulletin about the Scout handstamps up to 1957. In Part 6, the May/June issue, you write about the 1937 India rocket mail. You say here that you don't know who the three doctors are who had mail rockets named after them: Dr. R. Paganini, Dr. M. Kronstein and Dr. H. Radasch.

They were:

Dr. Robert Paganini of Zweisimmen, Switzerland

Dr. Max Kronstein of New York, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dr. Henry Erdmann Radasch of Philadelphia, P.A., U.S.A.

The three doctors have in common that they were prominent aerophilatelists of the time, that is collectors of air mail. This they also had in common with Stephen H. Smith who was responsible for nearly all rocket mail activities in India in the 1930's. Trust this is of interest.

Best regards,

Hallvard

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**40th World Scout Conference 2014 in Ljubljana from Tone Simoncic**

Just before the closing of the redaction we were notified that the World Scout Conference has on its 39th session in Brazil assigned the organising of the next, 40th conference, to the Slovenian Scout Organisation (Zveza tabornikov Slovenije). The two candidates figuring in the final were Italy and Slovenia.

The conference is also interesting from its philatelic side; according to information from American Philatelic Association a few years ago Scout themes in philately feature in the first lace after national topics. Philatelic developed countries react with rich and varied activities with every Scout occurrence.

The World Conference is accompanied by the Youth World Scout Forum. WOSM comprises over 160 countries, where about 1,500 delegates of national associations and representatives of youth forum meet. The organisation of this intensive meeting is of major importance and needs careful preparation. Working hours start at eight in the morning and are prolonged late into evening according to the preliminary programme supported by formerly adopted materials the revision of which needs to be accomplished in time by all regional (continental) associations all over the world. The exigent organisation is a big acknowledgement for the National Slovenian Scout Organisation.

According to unofficial information the main congress will be held at Gospodarsko razstavišče in Ljubljana (Ljubljana Exhibition and Convention Centre) whilst the Youth Forum will be taking place on the Pohorje mountain group.

The Ljubljana Philatelic Association members will take responsibility for the philatelic part of the meeting. We expect support from the Slovenian G.P.O. with our ideas of what to offer the world Scout Group in three years' time.

## THE PROBLEM OF FALLING MEMBERSHIP

After this subject was raised in the March/April issue of the Bulletin there have been some interesting and useful comments sent in by a number of members, some by e-mail and some by the traditional “snail mail”. Most of the shorter ones have been included in full but I’m afraid that the longer ones have had to suffer a bit of editing to allow sufficient space.

Anyway, here goes:-

Hi Terry,

I’ve just read the March/April SGSC magazine.

Has anyone ever asked the Scout Association for help with publicity? Each month I receive an e-mail entitled ScoutingPlus which highlights current news and events. Perhaps details of an auction could be included.

There is also the Scouting magazine (scouts.org.uk/magazine). I think it only goes to leaders and members but an article could be included as it would represent the Collectors badge that Cubs can work for.

Best wishes,

Henry Gowland    CSL, 1st Hexham    Member number 2932.

Terry,

I revived my interest in stamps when 2007 rolled around and I joined the club. I am now 56. I read your article about the declining membership and we will have to admit that letter writing is a dying medium. The postal service is in decline throughout the developed world as email becomes the medium of communication.

It is just the way it is as our children learn to write emails long before they write letters these days. I doubt that they are actually taught how to lay out a letter at school these days. Though I may be doing the education system a disservice. Our world is changing around us and faster than we think or like. The war in Afghanistan is nothing less than a clash of cultures.

The SGSC is also a SE England based club. I live in the West Midlands so attending a meeting would be an expense not to mention the time taken up travelling.

Now how to drum up members? Well the only way is to advertise more. Also you have to use the new medium of Facebook and Twitter. In other words you and the rest of our club have to enter the world that our current children live in. It is that simple. Collecting things by children has also gone out of fashion somewhat but I find my scouts still collect things. Football magazines is one item still in demand. Also Football club programmes.

So if we don’t want to become a relic then getting noticed is what it is about.

An article in Scouting magazine would help. Plus a Facebook Group. It just needs some imagination. Otherwise the club will become a small footnote in history.

Regards,

Nigel.

***Nigel L. Speakman    Group Scout Leader    7th Sutton Coldfield (235th Birmingham) Scout Group***

Hi Terry

Perhaps I can take this opportunity to say that I do appreciate the Bulletin and the interesting articles in it. I started collecting stamps as a young boy - in the days before TV, let alone computer games - and I spent many happy hours in the winter evenings pouring over stamps from magical places that no longer exist in Africa and the Far East! As I got older, other interests came along and I eventually became a Scout Leader (I still am one!) and as we all know, all the associated work with the '2 hours a week' have taken over my evenings! As retirement is starting to approach, I hope to start my boyhood hobby again, but I will never near the standard that is displayed in the Bulletin! However, we all measure our pleasure in different ways, and we can always look at the stars!

I don't know what the future for stamp collecting is - young people today seem to communicate by mobile, the internet, twitter, blogs and other strange devices - the only mail they seem to get is junk or official! It seems to be rarer and rarer to get an unexpected letter through the letter box with an exciting stamp on it now! How do we change that??

Best wishes, Richard Frank

In reply to your bulletin comments and the comments of John Bromige;

1 Other clubs do have auctions but publishing dates vary from club to club and almost impossible to receive foreign club auction lists, place notification in our bulletin in time for members to request copy of auction list with time left to submit bids

Why should these auction lists be in English? We don't print ours in foreign languages for our overseas membership! As a member of various European clubs, it is my job to understand what I am reading.

2 By the wording used, "rarer" items will always be offered at auction and not in any "sales" listing. By their very nature these tend to be single items so once sold cannot be re-placed and hence sales lists are useless and out of date unless there are multiple items such as the club sales page.

3 Members who have spare material (as opposed to giving up collecting) tend to send their material to me for purchase or auction. Not all members wish to become "dealers" involved in selling to their fellow collectors. I know that the material included in the club sales pages do not produce good sales (currently much of it mine!)

4 same comments as 1 above

5 Why should sellers pay for advertising space in the bulletin when they can place their items on e-bay for free and only pay when an item is sold? It is human nature to want the best returns for one's outlay and if it is possible to obtain better returns from e-bay then they will.

6 Sorry but if I hear of a Scout collection at auction, I want it at the cheapest possible price either for stock or for my own collection and not have to battle with other club members for it. This is my profession as well as a hobby. Anybody can always subscribe to auction search bodies who will, for a fee, inform them of available Scout items at auction, based on geographical location.

If you request members to attend club meetings / events many will always come up with excuses of distance, accommodation, and cost (but this never stopped me travelling from Coventry or Jack Wishart from Darlington who used to catch the "milk train")

If we can come up with a solution to diminishing membership and also to be able to attract interest in young people then we could market it and become rich! As you say it is a common problem at all levels of club membership and perhaps does not have a solution.

Regards Bob Lee.

Terry,

The problem of falling membership is very much a common problem and unfortunately I don't agree with John Bromige's offered solutions. From my observations, there are still youth who collect, usually when encouraged to by a parent or grandparent. The young adult seems very much missing from philatelic circles but then some middle aged adults do come back to collecting . There is a period in adult life where study, getting into good employment positions, and raising a family take sufficient time to not have any for hobbies of their own. Once the children move on and there is spare time what do they then do ? So our targets should still be the Scouts to plant the seeds, and the middle aged to encourage them back. Both these target groups are very computer literate and that is where they will find us. We need to be able to sell our club on the internet, facebook, twitter etc. Working out what we have to offer is an issue. Personally, I have always stuck with the Club because of the quality of its articles (in the english speaking sphere at least) which helped me develop my collection. Tracking down material is part of the fun which doesn't have the same appeal as being handed things on a plate so we look for all sorts of avenues to find material and yes sometimes we have to compete for it in an auction situation. Once you have found material the challenge is what is it all about and that has been where publications like the Bulletin come to the fore. If you come back to the hobby in middle age and you have an album with some stamps and want to know what they are and where to go from here where can you find it ?

We are well placed with having a website and a magazine, we all need to make sure we contribute to keeping the quality of the information available in the articles as our selling point for new members.

In reality I don't have a problem with John's ideas. I just don't think they'll increase membership, but they will certainly help keep the age group he writes about who don't have access to the internet which is not a bad thing.

With kind regards, Paul van Herpt



## For Terry

I have heard it said that the prices for collectables today are too expensive for would-be collectors. In fact relatively speaking, most philatelic items are cheaper now than ever before, and the ease with which they can be acquired via the young person's media of the internet make collecting both affordable and items easier to acquire, if that is what young people want to do. Prices for the more rarified items, are not going to put off a single beginner, because it will take them some years before they have both the wisdom and experience to be sufficiently motivated to seek out high-priced 'Holy Grail' items.

My experience as a dealer (in a non Scouting collecting field) for over 40 years is that it is actually the higher prices of the rarer items that motivate a lot of people to collect. Few people will begrudge saving up for an item if they can be guaranteed that they will always be able to sell it for what they gave, or better still make a few bob on the side! These arguments however are just peripheral and if we are not careful can become a smoke screen that obscures the main problem!

There is, in my opinion, just one over-riding reason for the decline. As a body we don't value our heritage sufficiently enough to take the practical steps required to ensure that it is passed on to our young people! **To create enthusiasts, you have to enthuse.** In its 103 year-long history, the Scout Association, as the custodian of our scouting Heritage, has failed to promote a National Scout Museum. There is no requirement of a modern-day Scout to encounter either stories from the life or the Founder, or any aspect of our history. Similarly there is no requirement for Scouts to understand and appreciate what we used to call 'our international dimension'.

My travels have shown that our Scouting Heritage is alive and well in many other countries, New Zealand, Belgium and Finland for example, though considerably smaller than the UK, each have their own excellent museums. America with its four million Scouts has just introduced a Heritage Proficiency Badge where young people are encouraged to take an active part in recording their nation's scouting history and to visit their National Museum!

Can we be surprised then, that if we do not project some enthusiasm for our heritage that our young people are completely 'switched off' by it. We have to find a way of demonstrating that our traditions, as exemplified by the artefacts we collect, are a worthwhile asset in ensuring our future.

It is, I believe, a case of the old adage, it is not the words of the joke that necessarily provide the laugh, it is entirely the way that you tell it. The above home truths, I suspect, will be sagely nodded at as criticising 'the Association', not individuals, however individuals are the Association and it is our hobby we are trying to promote, what are we as individuals going to do about it?

There are I know many in the club who like myself have given talks, manned exhibition stands and written articles, all very necessary but words in themselves will make little difference. We simply have to DO more to encourage, on an individual level, to encourage YOUNG people to see, handle and appreciate our collections and be exposed to some enthusiasm for our Scouting Heritage.

Regards Colin Walker

Dear Terry

I too share your concern about stamp collecting generally and our Scout and Guide Club in particular.

My own Club, Sutton and Cheam P.S. Were down to only 8 or so regulars at meetings and so formed another P.S. Club whose meetings are in the afternoons but not for me.

I believe some publicity in Gibbon's Monthly or Stamp Collecting journals might help but why not approach The Scout Association in London for a mention in their publications, also Guides. In my young days there was a regular publication either monthly or weekly, perhaps still??

I feel publicity must be from within the Scout/Guide Movements but the problem is that youngsters don't collect these days. Too many alternatives and we are probably not going to see any changes.

I was interested in John Bromige's letter, anything is better than nothing

Sincerely, Roger Bowers.

Dear Terry

Like others I have made many suggestions over the years but the problem is now serious (over 650 to 230+) and decreasing. As I see it, it needs to be tackled in three ways:-

- 1) At source (Scouts and Guides).
- 2) Parents, friends (30+ age).
- 3) The general public. (this may not bring in new members but could boost the Movement in general.

From experience I have found results are only obtained by dealing with the people in contro, in the case of 1) perhaps 2) this means H.Q. I know you have said there were problems here so I make these suggestions which may help.

1. Do any Club members (over 50 in London area?), families or friends (Do they want the Club? If so help it to survive) know any senior H.Q. Staff personally. If so contact them - talk to them about the Club.
2. I am not active in Scouting ("retired" over 40 years ago) but I understand many members are. Talk to you fellow Scouters ans D.C. About the Club and its value to the Movement. Press the D.C. To contact C.C. . He in turn to pressure H.Q. To provide facilities for our Club. *I am sure you know what I mean but I can elaborate.*
3. If all else fails try "Its not what you know but who". The Old Boy's Club, Wheels within Wheels, call it what you will, but from personal experience it does work. Also witness our P.M. And N. Clegg and many more in their earlier lives. It may take some time for H.Q. To see the light as at present it seems to be in a state of darkness about our Club and its aims. I feel sure there are London members who could help in this way if necessary. Once you have H.Q. on board my suggestions below may be of use. Part 2 suggestions below. Part 3 - To the general public we don't exist, this has been one of our problems for many years. Scouts / Guides, B.P. , Jamborees, Gang Shows etc - yes but our Club - no. In my own case for example: I collected Scout items for over 30 years but I had never heard of our Club. It was pure luck that I joined. I was trying to buy Scout stamps from a dealer (Not H&W) no luck, but he had heard (friend of a friend) of a person called Bob Lee living in Coventry, who might be able to help. After some difficulty I contacted Bob and heer I am. (Perhaps it is easier today with computers - I just don't know).

Suggestions - Point 1.

1. An article in the Scout, Scouter or whatever the publication is these days. Our Club and what it offers, mention International links, e.g. SOSSI. (Shows its not just a local Club). Illustrate if possible.
2. Follow this up with articles (monthly?) with a series showing links between today's Scouting (read also Guiding / Cubs, etc.) and yesteryear. E.G. Melvyn on postcards, John on Mafeking, Bob on B.P. And South Africa. My interests are general but I am willing to make a contribution.
3. A list of Club members, with their topics, who are willing to give talks (illustrated?) at meetings, exhibitions etc. List to Scout H.Q. For circulation by them to C.C. to pass on to appropriate meetings. (e.g. Rotary).

4. Could active Club members devote part of their meetings (Troop, Guide, Cub, etc.) to tell them about the Club - illustrated if possible. They could follow this up if interest is shown. (Perhaps they do this at present?) Could these members obtain one new member each?

Point 2 - Parents, friends, etc.

1. Illustrated talk at A.G.M. Meetings. Displays - Library, any public place?
2. Grandparents have gone into schools to talk to children about their lives during the war. (Photographs, gas masks, ration books, etc.). From what I have read children, especially younger ones are fascinated. How about something similar for our Club? (Stamps, covers, cards, badges, old Scout uniforms, equipment, etc - to illustrate.)
3. Similar to 2) above. When I was at school amongst many other Clubs was the Collectors Club (Not just stamps). Do such clubs exist in today's schools? If so use parents, with Head's permission, to show their collections.
4. What about Scout Badges - do collectors badges still exist? These seem rather popular in America according to reports in SOSSI. I think they call them Merit Badges - Examiners required?
5. What about the Internet. This group of parents (30+) unlike us older generation use it every day. SOSSI seems to gain most of their new members this way. Going back to my difficulties in joining the Club would the Internet have helped me? Take an imaginary case - 40 to 50+, just found my old Scout collection when clearing the attic. Memories - want to collect again (many do - Dinky Toys, trains, comics, etc.). I try the computer. I understand you have to "search the net". I would try Scouting, Stamp Collecting (Thematics), Stamp Dealers, Collectors Clubs, etc. Would I find our Club? Could something like "Facebook" be used? I understand they have millions of what are called "hits".

THE ABOVE IS JUST 50% OF A LENGTHY LETTER WHICH WAS RECEIVED FROM JOHN BROMIGE FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF HIS ORIGINAL LETTER IN THE MARCH / APRIL ISSUE. THE REMAINDER OF HIS IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS WILL BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

#####

So there you have it the first selection of letters on the fall in membership and suggestions regarding some of the actions that we could consider taking to try to re-address the situation. Please don't let this theme dry up - let me know what you think about the whole issue.

It does seem that amongst the reasons for the decline are:-

Nobody writes letters these days

Nobody, including Gilwell, is interested in our history any more.

Collecting, except in a few limited cases, is no longer an active hobby.

Do you agree with these and, if so, what can we do about it?

One question that I would like to ask is of our overseas members - Is the situation the same in your country or is this a peculiarly British problem. Certainly there still seems to be a lot of interest in the USA - especially in Badge collecting and I suspect that several thousand badges will change hands over the ten days of the World Jamboree. But what happens afterwards - do they just get put away in a drawer or are they the start of something much bigger? COMMENTS PLEASE!!!

**25th anniversary of the founding of Filatèlico de Scouts y Guías  
9th National exhibition of thematic Scout philately**



A drawing by Bi.Pi. was used for the special postmark, and also for inviting visitors to their 25th Birthday. Announced as an exhibition with a One-frame-competition. A good reason to go to Madrid was to promote EUROSCOUT next year in Germany, and to distribute information. Loaded with the first-paper-of- information in Spanish, and also Spanish translated brochures of Rothenburg as well as the house brochures of „Wildbad“ venue.

Arriving at Madrid, I managed to come to the exhibition place in good time – but what a place this was?! We have had quite a few interesting sites to host a

EUROSCOUT, but not a place like the palace of Communication at Madrid – possibly the most impressive “Post Office“ in the world. *Palacio de Comunicaciones*

Our Spanish friends had already expected me and soon my One-frame-display: “The Fleur de lie 1947 as a sign of peace” was placed into its frame.



Half an hour later at 18:00 the official opening took place, Luis Martinez de Salinas, the President of the club and also the president of IFSCO, addressed the assembly. I was allowed to give the greetings and congratulations of the Arge-Pfadfinder of Germany and of our collecting friends from Austria. Afterwards the Secretary of state for the Post and Communication spoke – I do not know what he said, but he showed great interest when shown around the exhibition.

Beside the three One-frame-displays (Cucchiani/Italy, Goncalves/Portugal, Steinmann/Germany) there was the “thematic” group and the „Mixed“ one, there were displays showing literature, photography, badges and insignias. Exhibited also were a number of EUROSCOUT- neckerchiefs.



Highlight of the exhibition was the display by Benito Gonzalez Bugallo about the Prague Scout mail 1918 showing surprisingly many items, sent to and from Rössler-Orowsky. Also his display (1 frame) about Scouts in wartime, mostly „Warsaw Uprising“ with a „potato” postmark (wide fleur-de-lie). Another “potato”- postmark (small fleur-de-lie) was to be admired in Giovanni Cucchiani’s display on the Warsaw uprising. The display by Luis Martinez de Salinas Trillo „El Escultismo“, showed many rare and expensive items, is always worth seeing. „The Scout adventure“ by Estanislao Pan de Alfaro, which has recently reached 85 point at Essen, for thematic, and from its content exceptional. Worth mentioning are the two interesting frames of telephone cards by Juan Carlos Carrasco.

On Saturday afternoon the so called „dinner of friendship“, a lunch (?) lasting from 14:30 till 18:00 took place. No idea how many courses of splendid Spanish specialties, of meat and fish, we had together with all kinds of drinks with the highlight from Malaga’s top wines – what else would you want? But if you are not used to such an abundance you soon come to an end.

What was there to celebrate: the 25th anniversary of the founding of the club, the birthday of their president Luis and the announcement to offer to host the EUROSCOUT 2016 at Malaga – what a feast.



*Luis Martinez de Salinas Trillo  
and his wife, the celebrities*



*José Francisco Suárez Onrubia,  
inviting to host a EUROSCOUT*

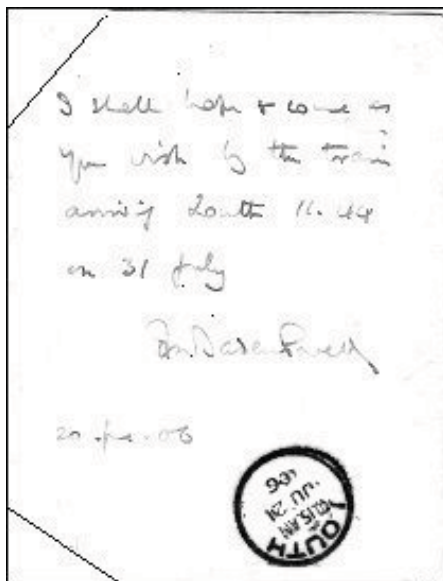
## SALES SERVICE

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 55p for 1<sup>st</sup> class post (any packets weighing over 100 gr will be sent by 2<sup>nd</sup> class post). Overseas £1.00 for stamp orders only, covers/cards orders £1.45.

STAMPS FROM STOCK	MINT	USED
AF61 AFGHANISTAN 1961 Women`s Day Girl Scout (2)	1.00	-
AF61S AFGHANISTAN 1961 Women`s Day MS	2.00	-
AF61AS AFGHANISTAN 1961 Women`s Day MS imperf.	2.00	-
AF62 AFGHANISTAN 1962 Women`s Day (4 – two Girl Scout)	1.25	-
AF62S AFGHANISTAN 1962 Women`s Day MS	2.50	-
AF62B AFGHANISTAN 1962 Boy Scouts Day (8)	2.00	-
AF62AB AFGHANISTAN 1962 Boy Scouts Day (8) imperf.	4.00	-
AF64 AFGHANISTAN 1964 Women`s Day (Dated 1963) – Boy & Girl Scouts (12)	2.50	-
AF64A AFGHANISTAN 1964 Women`s Day (12) imperf.	5.00	-
AF64S AFGHANISTAN 1964 Women`s Day – Girl Scouts First Aid 2 x MS	2.00	-
AF64AS AFGHANISTAN 1964 Women`s Day 2 x MS imperf	4.00	-
AF64FS AFGHANISTAN 1964 Women`s Day – Girl Scout with Flag 2 x MS	2.00	-
SNM07 SAN MARINO 2007 Centenary of Scouting/Europa (2)	1.95	-
SGP07 SINGAPORE 2007 Honouring Scouts & Guides (2)	0.35	-
STL07 St.LUCIA 2007 Centenary of Scouting (2)	1.60	-
STL07S St.LUCIA 2007 Centenary of Scouting MS	1.55	-
URU07 URUGUAY 2007 Centenary of Scouting (2)	2.10	2.10
URU07S URUGUAY 2007 Centenary of Scouting MS	3.50	3.50
ARG07 ARGENTINA 2007 Centenary of Scouting (4)	2.75	-
EGT07 EGYPT 2007 Centenary of Scouting (1)	0.40	-
KIR07 KIRIBATI 2007 Centenary of Scouting (4)	2.65	-
KIR07S KIRIBATI 2007 Centenary of Scouting MS	1.85	-
MEX07 MEXICO 2007 Centenary of Scouting (2)	2.85	-
NEP07 NEPAL 2007 Centenary of Scouting (1)	0.30	-
NL07 NETHERLANDS 2007 Centenary of Scouting/Europa (2)	1.70	1.30
PAR07 PARAGUAY 2007 Centenary of Scouting (2)	2.65	2.65
POL07 POLAND 2007 Centenary of Scouting/Europa (1)	1.50	-
SGE07 SOUTH GEORGIA 2007 Centenary of Scouting (Scout Marr & Shackleton) (5)	5.25	-
SPN07 SPAIN 2007 Centenary of Scouting/Europa (1)	0.70	-
MUS07 MUSTIQUE(St.Vincent) 2007 Centenary of Scouting 6 in sheetlet	5.00	-
MUS07 MUSTIQUE 2007 Centenary of Scouting MS	3.20	-
TUV07 TUVALU 2007 Centenary of Scouting (4)	4.20	-
TUV07S TUVALU 2007 Centenary of Scouting MS	3.10	-
ANG07 ANGOLA 2007 Centenary of Scouting 4 in sheetlet	2.25	2.00
ANG07S ANGOLA 2007 centenary of Scouting MS	1.55	1.45
PLN07 PALESTINIAN NATIONAL AUTHORITY 2007 Baden-Powell sheetlet of 4	2.30	-
BEN07S BENIN 2007 Baden-Powell MS	2.30	-
BUL07 BULGARIA 2007 Centenary of Scouting/Europa (2)	2.75	-
BUL07B BULGARIA 2007 Centenary of Scouting/Europa – smaller from booklets (2)	3.55	-
<u>LABELS</u> BP57L Girl Guides B-P Centenary labels – 2 sizes from G.B. & Canada	0.20	
B-A-JL G.B. 1950`s Bob-A-Job Week window labels in sheet of 6 with instructions	0.40	
GLN63 1 <sup>st</sup> Glasgow Group Boy Scouts Liechtenstein Camp 1963 label	0.20	
BEL-SL BELGIUM Scouts Baden-Powell de Belgique subs. labels 1956-60 (10 varieties)	0.50	
FRA-SL FRANCE Scouts de France subscription labels 1953-56 (4)	0.40	

## A 'Punt', or the importance of postcards

Early last year I was intrigued by a postcard advertised on eBay.



As you can see from the image, the card has no great visual appeal. Its condition is best described as poor, the top edge has been 'protected' by white tape and the bottom corners have been removed, perhaps as a result of it being stuck into an album. The reverse side however shows it was sent by Baden-Powell on July 21st 1906 to the Rev, AH Worrall at the 'The Lodge', Louth, Lincolnshire. The message, also a little uninspiring is, *I shall hope to come as you wish by train, arriving in Louth 11.44 on 31 July. RSS Baden-Powell.* I placed a bid for the item and won the auction for about as much as you might expect to pay for a Baden-Powell signature – (around £60).

I collate all Baden- Powell dated items by adding information about them to my 'B-P Chronology' (have you any in your collection I could add?). This enormous database includes B-P's day-by-day diaries, copied from the microfiche at Scout archives Gilwell Park and from the originals in the BSA archives Dallas, Texas. On adding the details of the postcard, I discovered that Baden-Powell had, on 31<sup>st</sup> of July, visited the town and presented King Edward VI Grammar School (Headmaster AH Worrall) with a bust of his claimed ancestor Captain John Smith of Pocahontas fame. The rare contemporary sepia postcard shows it in the position it retains in the school to this day (though it is now very beautifully lit!)

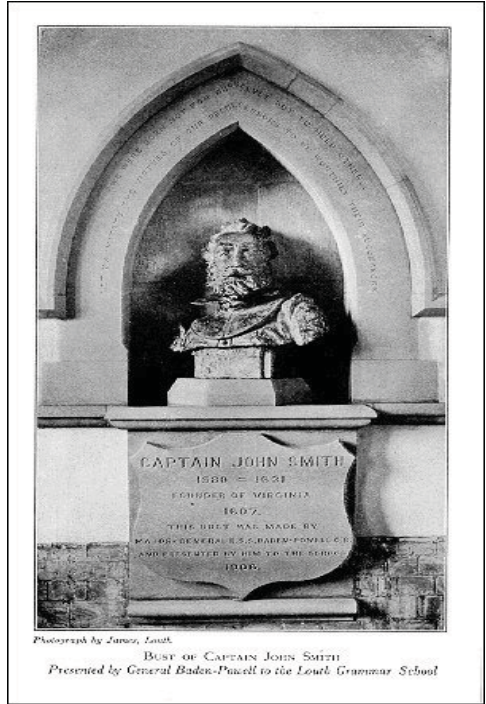
Baden-Powell and his Smyth ancestors (B-P's grandfather on his mother's side was Admiral Sir W.H Smyth, giving rise to the 'Smyth' in his full name) liked to believe that they were descended from Captain Smith (1592-95) who had been a pupil at the school. When B-P began to model in clay, one of his earliest works was a bust of Captain Smith, which he then had cast in bronze. This was later exhibited in the Royal Academy allowing B-P to add the coveted 'R.A' initials to his name, though I don't think he proclaimed this honour.

The bronze bust that B-P presented to the school was not unique. Although casting in bronze is ex-pensive, the process allows for several casts to be made from the original clay model so, besides the example still exhibited with pride at the school to this

day, an exact casting is also to be found in the UK Scout Archives at Gilwell Park and yet another in the State Library of Richmond of Virginia, the state that John Smith founded, in New England, USA.

*Part I* of *Scouting for Boys*, published in fortnightly parts from January 1908, (and the later hard copy), included an eleven-page play written by B-P called *Pocahontas*, which of course featured Captain Smith, however no connection was claimed at this time B-P's family and Captain Smith.

Clearly, when Baden-Powell visited the school on July 31<sup>st</sup> 1906, the bust was already in place or delivered by B-P in person. As a former Headteacher myself, I cannot envisage a situation where 'the Hero of Mafeking' could visit a school and not be given the opportunity to talk to the boys. I contacted the school's History Department and found that unfortunately they had no knowledge of any records that might detail B-P's visit. Knowing that the School Log Book for the period would almost certainly have the detail I sought and that it was unlikely to have been thrown away, I surmised that it might have been placed in the care of Lincolnshire Public Records Offices and so contacted them. They were very helpful but though they have the school Governors' Minute books, they too were unable to locate the





missing School Log book. They advised that I check with Louth Museum whom they said might be able to help.

At this point my quest had taken on a more serious dimension. B-P's diary confirmed that on May 6<sup>th</sup> 1906 he sent William Smith, Founder of the Boys' Brigade his paper *The Scouting Scheme* for comment, and on May 20<sup>th</sup> 1906 B-P dined with the Secretary of State for War, Richard Haldane to discuss his ideas for a new Youth Movement. Checking B-P's diaries for details of engagements at this time where he might have opportunity to talk to young people about his ideas, I discovered the visit to Louth Grammar School was the first recorded opportunity that B-P had to address a group of boys about his new Scouting Scheme. The question to be determined however, was did B-P talk to the boys on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1906?

Cath Gaunt, the Cultural Services Advisor at Louth Library, was more than equal to the task. She was able to find a local publication that utilised local postcards for illustration and sent me scans of the postcard images below.

Baden-Powell is seen here addressing the people of Louth at the school playing fields on July 31<sup>st</sup> 1906.



The caption to the image mentions an old publication *A Souvenir of Louth*, which stated that B-P's gift of the bust of Captain Smith, *which he made with his own hands, would be a great treasure to the town.* The *Souvenir* went on to record that while at the school B-P went on to open a new gymnasium and to inspect and

address the school's Cadet Corps. Though there is no record of the words that he used, I believe it more than likely that the Founder will have told the boys of 'his first boy scouts'\* , the Mafeking Cadets, before going on to mention his plans for 'Scouting for Boys. (\* from Camp Yarn No. 1. January 1908).

We can be sure that B-P's visit bore fruit, as on a return visit to King Edward VI Grammar School, on August 6<sup>th</sup> 1908, he was able to inspect Boy Scouts. The postcard image on the next page was taken at Hubbard Hills, Louth, and although neither B-P nor the Scouts are much in evidence, the large crowd that turned up to



see them certainly is.

In the *Scout* magazine of September 4<sup>th</sup>, 1909, Baden-Powell referred to the school's Captain Smith bust and was able to report with some satisfaction;

*I went over to see it the other week and was delighted to hear from the Headmaster, Rev. AH Worrall, that a party of Boy Scouts from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Romford who were camping nearby had asked to come and see Captain Smith's bust.*

So, my £60 'punt' on a postcard has revealed aspects of Baden-Powell and Scout History that has never been previously brought together. Baden-Powell's busts of Captain John Smith are on display in Lincolnshire and Virginia, as well as residing in the depths of the Scout Archive, but perhaps more importantly it would seem that a group of Cadets from King Edward VI Grammar School Louth were the first to hear from the Founder's lips of his plans that were destined to have impact on over 400 million young people (and rising) across the world.

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If for any reason you decide not to renew, please write to advise us of the reason so that we can consider the situation for the future.

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