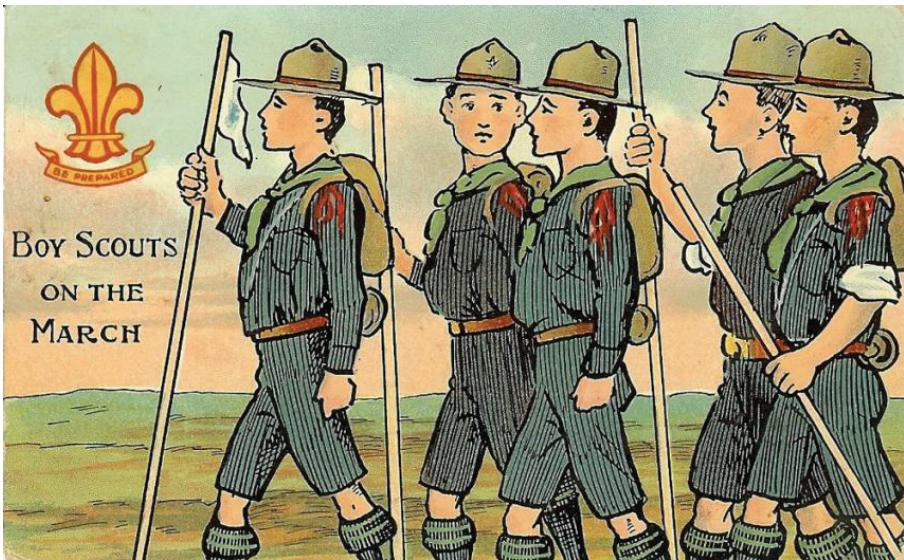


Scout and Guide Stamps Club

BULLETIN

Volume 56 No. 4 (Whole No. 324)



**Just a dream - but if only all our Members were as smart as this lot
from the early days of the Movement.**

JULY / AUGUST 2012



Editorial

Many thanks to those who responded to my brief thoughts on the subject of electronic publishing. I have put an expanded article on this subject at page 16 of this issue and would welcome any comments that any more of you would like to make.

As usual I am looking for some more “longer” articles - possible serials - so that I can plan out the remaining issues for the year .

Obviously the “shorts” are also welcome as they enable the space filling to be completed in what, I hope, is a sensible and neat fashion.

From my point of view I have now finished all the final meetings relating to the 2012 Chelmsford Gang Show, which was generally received as yet another success, and I am preparing to start on the meetings for the 21013 performance. The one problems is that we have a new District Commissioner Designate in our District and he has already said to me that he wants performers in the show restricted to those who are under the age of 25. Not something that I agree with in any way so this may turn out to be my final performance.

Meanwhile I look forward to receiving some more articles - long or short - from as many of you as possible in due course.

Terry Simister

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

FUTURE COPY DATES

September 16th and November 11th.

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

FUTURE MEETINGS

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

3rd November 2012 at venue to be advised. Committee 12.45 to 13.15 then open meeting 13.15 to 14.45

Chairman's Notes

by Melvyn Gallagher

Speaking to our Editor I am pleased to hear that already some members have replied positively to the proposal that our Bulletin be sent by e mail to those of you with computers who request this service. The potential savings to the Club are considerable, especially with rising printing and postage costs - and Bulletins can be sent out quicker too!

With the Olympic Games only weeks away (as I write) already London is in a state of turmoil and we wait to see which countries will produce exploitative stamps, including Scouts and Guides in the designs.

When the original games took place in ancient Greece they stopped wars whilst they were underway - what a pity we can't do likewise today. I think especially of the 10,000 Scouts in Syria, where a full civil war had now started. Their Movement started back in 1912 and had problems in the 1980s when the Ba'ath Party banned youth organisations and later when they

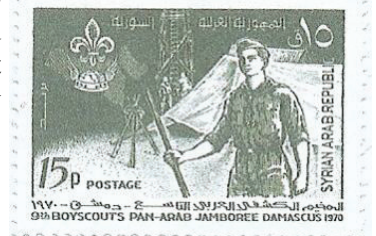
w e r e

r e m o v e d

from the World Organisation of the Scout Movement from 1999-2008 (largely because they failed to pay their subs!) have been very active.



During their recent strife they have changed their emblem but whether or not this has anything to do with the war I do not know.



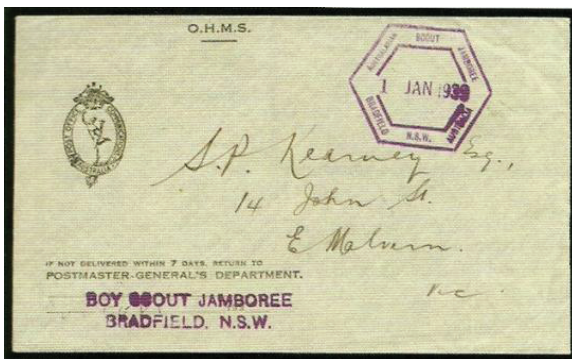
Like many Scouts from Arab lands they are keen on Scout Bands, the louder the better.

Scouts of Syria



In 2012, the Scouts of Syria changed their emblem, in the midst of the Syrian civil war.

One of the most important Scout collections to appear on the market recently was that of Ernie Stermole from Australia. Sold by Prestige Philately of Boronia near Melbourne, the collection contained philatelic items as well as paper ephemera and other mementos of Scout Jamborees. Some very high prices were obtained with two of the 1935 Frankston registered covers both making £390 (US\$605 €470). A registered cover from the 1939 Bradfield Jamboree made £357 (US\$553 €430), but the cover shown, from the same camp with the hexagonal violet cancel made £530 (US\$820 €635). The sunken die proof card showing the 1952-53 3½d Scout stamp made the highest price of £2863 (US\$4437 €3435). The last one I recorded was sold by Grosvenor in London in May 2009 which made £1150. According to the auctioneers only eight such die proofs were prepared, of which two are in institutional collections.



Good prices are still being made on eBay for scarce items. In early July, an official partly addressed Danish Scout cover in poor condition and sent from Denmark to the 1929 World Jamboree made £563 (US\$ 875 €675). A month earlier a 1947 World Jamboree Die Proof from France in brown made £435 (US\$ 675 €522).

As I find that collectors of Scout badges and ephemera are not really made welcome at the Annual Gilwell

Reunion, I and many of my friends will be attending the popular annual meeting at Midhurst, Sussex over the weekend of Friday 31 August to Sunday 2 September. I also look forward to meeting many of our overseas members at the Euro-Scout meeting being held at Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Germany from September 27-30.

KENYA

by Peter Shore

(just a stones throw behind the rich façade of the package holiday)

Beryl and I had long considered going on a 'package' Safari—we were no longer up to the rigours trekking around countries, on foot with rucksack specifically looking for lions - so when the opportunity came for a 'package deal' which guaranteed comfort, soft bedding AND wild animals - we stopped, thought and booked.

It was second nature for me to investigate any possible Scout links, and it so happened there existed a marvellous promotional video produced by the Kenyan Scout Association which highlighted the sad plight of street kids in Nairobi and Mombasa, where drugs, prostitution, theft, and Aids all presented a very serious problem. A copy was obtained, and true enough, the kids of those cities - like many others around the third world - lived on their wits, alone, lonely and scared, targets and victims of drug dealers, desperate adults; most probably destitute, orphaned, homeless or maybe not being able to read or write. In short, and for a second subdued, we decided to contact the Scout Leader in Kenya to learn more and possibly meet up.

We eventually arranged that on arrival in Nairobi we would meet up and be introduced to the 'Street Scouts' we would have the opportunity of discussing their Scout ways - difficulties, problems and pleasures. With two local Scout Leaders, we visited the nearby slum encampment where some 10,000 families lived - no sewer/sanitation, no piped water, high fire risk and heaven knows what medical and security problems. When



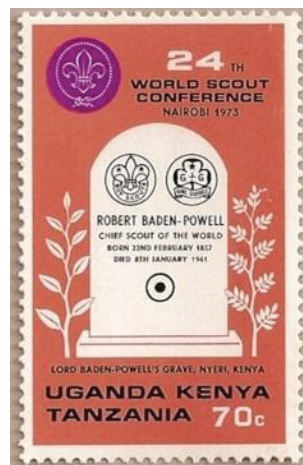
I asked about safety and security of life, limb and personal goods in such an area as this, I was quickly re-assured that our safety was assured, for such is the high profile and importance with which the Scout Uniform is held locally. I was touched and impressed and thought— if only some of our lads and lasses in U.K. could hear and understand the power, strength and pride a scout uniform has out here in Africa..

Next stop was the school where the 'street scouts' were being taken in to be schooled - not only in academic subjects, but where they would get medical treatment, substantial food; they could wash themselves and their clothes. But above all they could meet safely and feel wanted. Some had uniform, most did not, and some had a parent or relation, but again, most did not. But they all knew that here they had a place where they were genuinely safe and loved. The school itself was no great shakes - tatty, a bit run down with one or two broken windows - but was efficiently run by a warm loving human 'mother' in the shape of the affectionate no-nonsense Headmistress. I was - again - able to meet the troop - in fact I inspected each and everyone. Believe me - it is not easy to be too critical when you know what the child is wearing is all they own in the world (and I doubt if they have much or anything on underneath the top layer.) One girl was wearing what originally was once a 1960's pretty pink organza party-dress - something I could see my own granddaughter Nadine wearing. Originally no doubt – chic and cute and undoubtedly 'up-market' - but now so torn, faded, tatty and garish, fitting in the oddest of places. Though it was rather grubby and smelly - the young owner was bright, cheerful and saluting me with such sincerity and pride that I could only review her through a misty film of tears.

You see – she was a 'Scout' and **that word** was a private powerful password—and for a few brief moments—allowed her into a new safe world!

Beryl and I left them, huddled laughing joyfully in their own company - strong, independent and totally at home and at ease and intriguingly, totally dedicated to their Troop Leader Peter. He was only 14 – and one time top boy hoodlum, gang-leader and successful street crook!

It will be a very long time before I forget that young Troop Leader , proudly reporting to me "Troop ready for inspection Sah!" with an army regimental-style scout salute - quivering and precise - more fitting for a Royal Review than a Pete Shore presentation! The proudly won and worn - but not torn, neckerchiefs over a filthy oversized vest on an undersized chest - they could have been (and maybe should have been) on duty at Windsor Castle such was their bearing and demeanour. The white teeth, the bright smile... ..words fail me - it was an honour and a privilege to have been invited to associate with such a group of children, their Kenyan Leaders and the sympathetic guidance and sponsorship of their dedicated Scout Leader Wallace Garland.
(Originally submitted on 04/02/2009)



A SCOUTING PERSONALITY FROM NEW ZEALAND by Paul Van Herpt

On 14th April 2011, New Zealand Post issued a sheet of 22 stamps to commemorate the 22 New Zealanders who have been awarded the Victoria Cross, the military's highest valour award. On row 3 stamp 5 is Sergeant James Allen Ward VC who is of particular interest in that in his youth he was a member of the Glasgow Eagles Scout Troop in Wanganui.

Ward was born 14 July 1919 in Wanganui where he spent his youth including time in Scouts. He joined the RNZAF (Royal New Zealand Air Force) and served in the 75 (NZ) Squadron of the RAF (Royal Air Force).

On July 7th 1941 he was co-pilot on a Vickers Wellington bomber returning from an attack on Munster in Germany when an engine caught fire after being hit by flak fire. Unable to douse the fire with the internal extinguishers Ward crawled out on the wing attached to rope from the liferaft and doused the fire by smothering it with a sheet of canvas. This action saved the plane and it landed safely in England with its full crew complement. For this action Ward was presented the Victoria Cross. On 15 September 1941, he was killed over Hamburg, Germany, when his plane caught fire after being hit by flak.

In the National Scout Museum there is a photo of Ward as a youth in his Scout uniform and a rather poor quality mounted portrait of him taken in his flying gear which was presented by his Bomber Squadron to the NZ High Commissioner in London for the Boy Scout Association New Zealand Branch (as it was in those days). His connection with Scouting was such that a presentation of this nature was made. He is now also immortalised by the issue of a postage stamp.

Details of the issue; Sheet of 22 x 60 cent value stamps in 5 x 5 format with label in bottom row equal to 3 stamps. Designed by Cue design of Wellington, NZ and printed by Southern Colour Print Ltd of Dunedin, NZ in offset lithography, four colour process plus silver on Tullis Russell 104 gsm red phosphor gummed stamp paper.

I need to apologise for the quality of the image, I am one of the members of the SGSC referred to in the Editor's notes who live in an earthquake damaged city. The philatelic bureau here is in the "red zone" of the inner city which we have not been allowed into since February 22nd, and I have not found the stamps at any of the few local offices open so I've had to rely on taking a poor quality image off the NZ Post website. As a Scout collector I don't really want a whole sheet for one stamp so I hunt for the opportunity to get just one stamp and being in the severely disrupted city of Christchurch such things are not as easy as before. The current tally for buildings in our central business district being demolished stands at 900 !
(Originally submitted 15-05-2011. I have a better image now, Ed.)



A Sad but Enjoyable Series of Books of Postal History

©T.P. McDermott
(tpwzrmcd@hotmail.com)

For over eight years, David Tett of UK has written and published *A Postal History of the Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees in East Asia during the Second World War*. They total six volumes, which number about four hundred pages each.

Vol	Allied Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees in	Published
1	Singapore and Malaya	2002
2	Dutch East Indies	2003
3	Burma, Thailand, and Indochina	2005
4	Hong Kong and China	2007
5	The Philippines and Taiwan	2009
6	Japan, Korea, Manchuria and Borneo	2010

This reviewer has been a faithful purchaser and reader of the series and has anxiously waited for the appearance of the each new volume. Mr Tett has finally finished his planned six volumes and copies of the books now occupied a prize location in my philatelic library. It is a job well done!

While I am especially interested in volume three, Thailand being my collecting country, I have tried to keep an open mind to recognizing other collecting interest such as topical/themic interests in the series. Beside transportation and suffering subjects, I found few other topics other than gardening and education. However, I was surprised to find one item that brightens my Scouting/Guiding interest. A postcard sent to a British officer who was a POW in a Borneo camp contains a remark about Lady Baden Powell. The card was addressed to Captain H. D. A. Yates from his Aunt Mrs R. H. (Hilda) Paul of Ipswich, England. Postmarked July 29th1943, it has a penciled notation that it was received on August 26th1944.

It reads “My dear Donald,

We think about you a great deal. We had a lovely holiday at Criccieth with Molly, Caroline and Gillian last month. Bertha joined us for a week.

Lady Baden Powell stayed here last week for a series of Guide functions.

We both send much love. Aunt Hilda”

It is figure 6-9-13 (found in volume six, chapter nine, and is figure thirteen on page 263).

How Mr Tett gathers his material, develops the story line, wrote, and published six books over such a short time must be a story in itself to read. I hope that he will document his labor of love for other authors to gain insight.

Mr Tett’s books can be purchased from major philatelic booksellers (my favorite is Leonard Hartmann, www.pbbooks.com) Or from BFA Publishing in UK www.fepowmail/co.uk . Alternatively, try borrowing a volume from a philatelic library such as The Collectors Club or the American Philatelic Research Library.

WORLD STAMP CHAMPIONSHIP INDONESIA 2012

We have received two communications regarding the Scouting exhibits at the above.

The first from Hallvard Slettebo

The World Stamp Championship INDONESIA 2012 was held at Jakarta, Indonesia, 18-24 June 2012. Ten Scouting exhibits were on show, and this must be a new record for an FIP exhibition. Scouting is very popular in Indonesia, which has the largest Scouting organisation in the world. There are today 41 million Boy Scouts and Girl Guides / Girl Scouts world-wide, and Indonesia has as many as 17 million of these. INDONESIA 2012 had invited one Scouting exhibit to the Court of Honour, "World Scouting - its Path to Success" by Hallvard Slettebø. It is the first time ever that a Scouting exhibit is shown in the Court of Honour at an FIP show. Indeed, it is very rare altogether that thematic exhibits are invited to the Court of Honour, and perhaps fewer than five have achieved this earlier. Hallvard was also one of the thematic jurors in the exhibition. Berthold Sinaulan was General Commissioner.

In the competitive classes, there were nine Scouting exhibits:

Thematic Class:

Roberto Basso (Brazil) - "Memories of Scout Neckerchief" – Large Vermeil 86p

William Kwan (Hong Kong) - "The Boy/ Man and His Worldwide

Brussels Sprouts" – Vermeil 84p

Avie Wijaya (Indonesia) - "Treasure of the Sleepless Wolf" – Silver 73p

Gede Ngurah Surya Hadinata (Indonesia) - "Scout Dimension" – Silver 70p

Gita Novianti (Indonesia) - "One World One Promise" – Large Vermeil 85p

Estanislao Pan de Alfaro (Spain) - "The Scouting Adventure" – Large Vermeil 88p

The second from Berthold Sinaulan

Dear All,

Just to add the information/article provided by Mr. Hallvard Slettebo, I want to share some information too.

Almost two years ago, the Organizing Committee of the World Stamp Championship Indonesia 2012, appointed me as the General Commissioner. My duty is to propose the exhibition regulation (IREX) to the FIP Consultant for the Indonesia 2012, Mr. Bernie Beston, a well known philatelist from Australia. I also have duty to be the liaison officer between the Organizing Committee with all National Commissioner (which came from 60 countries), and with the President of Jury, Mr. Suwito Harsono, my fellow philatelist from Indonesia, arrange who we will be invite to exhibit in the Court of Honour.

One day in early 2011, Mr. Bernie Beston came from Australia to Jakarta, Indonesia, to have consultation meeting with the Organizing Committee of the World Stamp

Championship Indonesia 2012. He asked me, "Who do you want to exhibit in the Court of Honour?". I answered it spontaneously, "How about the best thematic collection on Scouting". Why I answered like that?

First of all, I'm a scouts on stamps collector. Second, I know that in Indonesia, Scouting is one of the popular theme/topic in philately, besides the best topic, flora and fauna. Third, Scouting in Indonesia have more than 21 million members, the biggest national scout organization in the world (compared with 32 million scouts all over the world). If there is a Scout collection in the Court of Honour, I hope it will attract many Scouts to come to the exhibition. (Later, in the exhibition, I saw many Scouts coming, some of them used their Scout uniform, the other used their Scout T-shirt. I also knew that the National Headquarters of Gerakan Pramuka - the Indonesian Scouting Movement - has sent a circular to the Provincial Scout Headquarters which gave them information about the World Stamp Championship Indonesia 2012, and strongly suggest Scouts - especially those who working on their Stamp Collecting Proficiency/Merit Badge, to come to the exhibition).

Then I asked Mr. Beston, "I heard Mr. Hallvard Slettebo from Norway is an accredited FIP juror, and I knew that his collection considered the best Scouting collection in the world today. Can we asked him to exhibit his collection in the Court of Honour?"

Mr. Beston agreed, and if I'm not forgot, he said that he will meet Mr. Slettebo in the World Stamp Exhibition in Yokohama, Japan, in mid of 2011. Then he will asked Mr. Slettebo to exhibit his collection in the Court of Honour.

The rest is history. For myself, it is truly an honour to personally met with Mr. Slettebo and to saw his great Scouting collection.

Thank you.

Yours in Scouting Philately,

Berthold Sinaulan

SOSSI LM #262

Jakarta, Indonesia

A further reminder of the new Membership Rates which were due from 1st April, 2012 (unless you were already part way through a five years membership).

Outstanding payments please to Tim Reed or by the use of PayPal.

	1 YEAR	5 YEARS
United Kingdom individuals and Sections	£12.00	£60.00
Juniors (under 16)	£5.00	Not available
All World Surface & Europe Airmail	£15.00	£75.00
All World Surface (Juniors)	£6.50	Not available
All World Airmail (except Europe)	£20.00	£100.00

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 70p for 1st class post (any packets weighing over 100 gr will be sent by 2nd class post). Overseas £1.30 for stamp orders only, covers/cards orders £1.75.

A SELECTION OF LABELS

AUT57L AUSTRIA 1957 2 labels honouring B-P & 50 Years of Scouting	0.30
GB57SL G.B. 1957 2 nd World Convention of SOSSI at Jubilee Jamboree (1)	0.15
GB57LA G.B. 1957 as above, but imperforate (1)	0.25
IRN79L IRAN 1979 15 th World Jamboree publicity label (Jamboree cancelled)	0.15
IRN79J IRAN 1979 Self adhesive label for Join-in-Jamboree (also cancelled)	0.12
IRN79JS IRAN 1979 sheetlet of 7 labels issued by World Scout Bureau for Join-in-Jamboree	0.50
IRN79C IRAN 1979 sheetlet of 7 labels for 27 th World Scout Conference (also cancelled)	0.50
JPN57 JAPAN 1957 sheetlet of 6 identical labels commemorating 50 years of World Scouting	1.00
RUS57L RUSSIAN SCOUTS IN EMIGRATION label for Jubilee Jamboree 1957 (1)	0.50
SWE34L SWEDEN 1934 sheetlet of 20 Scout Camp savings labels	2.00
UKR63L UKRAINIAN SCOUTS at 11 th World Jamboree, Marathon label (1)	0.20

POSTCARDS

AUS10A AUSTRALIA 2010 22 nd Jamboree postcard of Ayers Rock with Jamb imprint + postmark	1.00
AUS10B AUSTRALIA 2010 as above, but with picture of kangaroos	1.00
GB-N G.B.advertising postcard for Scout Network	0.30
SWZ66C SWITZERLAND 1966 6 th National Camp, Domleschg maxi-card of Scout flag & salute	1.00
SWZ83C SWITZERLAND 1983 3 postcards honouring 15 th World Jamboree – Scouts of Indonesia, Jordan & Sudan	0.75
POL68 POLAND 1968 4 th National Convention of Scouting postcard with imprinted stamp – unused	0.60
POL69 POLAND 1969 announcement leaflet for Polish Scouts “Alert” stamps	0.20

STAMPS FROM STOCK

	MINT	USED
CAR99SF CENTRAL AFRICAN REP. 1999 Scouts & flowers + B-P MS	2.30	-
CAR99SS CENTRAL AFRICAN REP. 1999 Scouts & sports + B-P MS	5.20	-
ELS97 EL SALVADOR 1997 75 th Anniversary of Scouting (1)	0.95	-
HK98 HONG KONG 1998 Honouring Scouting (4)	2.15	-
ROM97 ROMANIA 1997 Honouring Scouting (5 se-tenant)	1.80	1.00
SRL98 SRI LANKA 1998 5 th National Jamboree (2)	1.25	-
TWN98 TAIWAN 1998 20 th Asia Pacific Jamboree – triangulars in block of 4 (2 designs)	1.00	-
UKR94 UKRAINE 1994 Hetman (Leader) series of 15 overprints on old USSR stamps	5.00	-
CAR82 CENTRAL AFRICAN REP. 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting (4)	2.25	0.75
CAR82S CENTRAL AFRICAN REP. 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting MS	2.50	0.80
COM82 COMOROS 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting (4)	2.50	0.75
COM82S COMOROS 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting MS	2.00	0.65
CON82 CONGO 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting (4)	2.25	0.75
CON82S CONGO 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting MS	2.00	0.65
IVC82 IVORY COAST 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting (4)	-	0.75
IVC82S IVORY COAST 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting MS	-	0.65
MAU82 MAURITANIA 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting (4)	2.25	0.75
MAU82S MAURITANIA 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting MS	1.75	0.60
NGR82 NIGER 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting (4)	2.00	0.65
NGR82S NIGER 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting MS	1.75	-

(Part Two)

The Collection continued to grow when a friend asked me why I was waiting to secure its future. I invited my brother Ron and five other friends to be Trustees to establish *Be Prepared – The Story of Scouting Museum Trust*. The Trust was registered by the Charity Commission on 24th June 1998. By then I had mounted over 320 exhibitions and illustrated talks throughout the North West of England and much further afield. No charges or expenses had ever been sought or accepted. The County Executive of West Lancashire Scouts agreed to our application to build the Country's first purpose-built Scout Museum at Waddecarr Scout Activity Centre in the beautiful Trough of Bowland in Lancashire as an attractive, additional facility for campers and visitors. It was paid for with my savings and a legacy from my friend Dr John Frederick Wilkinson. As his Executor I used a Deed of Variation to his Will so that instead of coming to me as a residuary legacy it was paid directly to the Trust to save Inheritance Tax.

The building was designed by Roy Fisher MBE BArch JP DL FRIBA FRTPI and built by Richard Palmer (Building) of Preston. The display cabinets were made by M and P Gildert of Penwortham. Known as the *Little Gem* it was officially opened by the Chief Scout, George Purdy CBE on 21st July 2001.

On 8th July 2006 our splendid Honorary Architect, Roy Fisher MBE, officially opened the new *John F Wilkinson Wing* which presents the story of Guiding. Having contributed 25% of the cost of our first building, the rest of the legacy he left me met all the costs of the new building and so the Trustees decided to name it in his honour. *Wilkie* was a most generous friend and splendid Scout. He had formed the first patrol of Scouts in Blackpool in 1908; attended the first Wood Badge Course in 1919 and led the first Wood Badge Course held outside Gilwell Park at Alderley Park, Cheshire commencing on 3rd September 1920. The Trustees invited Roy to officially open the Annexe to acknowledge his wonderful work as our Architect. He has most generously given of his time and expertise for our project and many more throughout the Region for Scouts and Guides without making any charge for his professional skills or expenses. The Annexe incorporates the Guide Storeroom named *Patricia's Store* to acknowledge the large archive donated by Patricia Butterworth, the World Chief Guide's *Tame Artist* and friend, to the Trust. This was in addition to the many items she gave me during her lifetime and in her Will.

There are over 160 square metres of display space with 21 display cabinets of various sizes. Two of the permanent cabinets are devoted to the life of B-P. Philatelic material is always on display. The Library contains the Stanley Boughey V.C. Memorial.



Royal Mail North used our building for the launch of the Scout Centenary Stamps in 2007 and again in 2010 for the launch of the Guide Centenary Stamps. The large 'stamps' used for both events are now on permanent display in the *Little Gem*.

An additional storage facility was

added to the rear of the building in 2011. It was funded by Patricia Butterworth's legacy to the Trust following her death in 2007.

Writing about the Collection in 1969 Olave, Lady Baden-Powell said it "is of such importance for the present day Scouts and Guides to learn from so that they may the more fully understand and realise what a marvellous thing they are members of, and appreciate its romantic birth and growth and progress." (Extract from a letter written to me on 13th April, 1969.)



Our Charity Commission approved role is *to advance the education of the public in the history of the Scout and Guide Movements*. We also aim to inspire our young and not so young visitors.

Club members are most welcome to visit us. We have already welcomed former Chairman John Ineson and regular contributor Colin Walker*. We are open every Saturday from 10am till 4pm. With prior notice it is often possible to open at other days and times as it was for John and Colin. For a virtual tour of the building and more information do visit our website www.storyofscouting.org.uk or for a shorter tour, thanks to Daniel Scott-Davies, Archives and Heritage Manager for The Scout Association who has visited us twice go to www.scoutsrecords.org.

(* See Colin's Corner in the November/December 2011 BULLETIN)

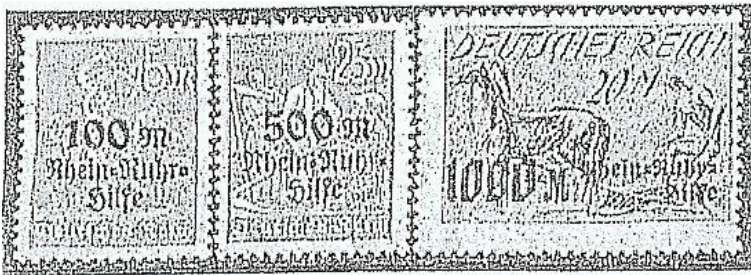
INFLATION STAMPS WITH THE TEXT “RHEIN-RUHR HELP OR TRAVEL ASSISTANCE / SCOUT CORPS”

By Manfred Rauschenberger (from Scoutpost Journal of ArGe Pfadfinder, Germany)
Translation by Thomas Liebers.

After the First World War had been lost, The German Reich was made to pay, by means of the Treaty of Versailles, massive reparation costs to the Allies. In 1922, because of the significant economic problems of the Reich, the Allies forwent reparation costs in the form of payments, and requested material goods (coal, manufactured goods) instead. Because of a small backlog in the reparations to France, French and Belgian troops occupied the Ruhrgebiet (a northwestern region with extensive heavy industry) on 11th January 1923. Out of protest for the occupation, the government of the Reich called for passive resistance. Workers, civil servants and private employees stopped working. Railway staff did not despatch trains to France any more. Occupied houses were without water, gas or electricity supplies the following day. There were some cases of sabotage and in response, the Allies issued the “Belagerungszustand” (a state of occupation). Many entrepreneurs and those striking were brought up before the court and given prison sentences, fined money or were deported.

The economic crisis in the Ruhr and the necessity to support millions of strikers, led the Reich into a deep crisis. The speed of inflation became faster and made it impossible to buy necessary food and produce for the population in the world markets. Those who did not have material things to exchange went hungry.

On 19th February 1923, to support the people along the rivers Rhine and Ruhr, the Deutsche Reichspost (German Post Office) issued three surcharged stamps (Figure 1). The stamps have the Michel numbers 258/60 (Gibbons 257/59). They were valid until 30th September 1923.



Due to the galloping inflation, the Reichspost had to issue new stamps all the time. The unused and worthless stamps were available to private individuals as large sheets of paper. Often they were printed with advertisements and used as letter seals.

It appears that there was one Scout Group (it has not been possible to establish where) which, similar to private individuals, obtained stamps and had them overprinted

“Rhein-Ruhrhilfe...Scout Corps” (Rhine-Ruhr assistance) or “Fahrtenbeihilfe...Scout Corps” (Transit fare assistance) (Figure 2). The stamps could have sold at the printed values from 1000 to 3000 Mark, and the proceeds donated to the suffering population of the rhein-Ruhr region as well as being used to finance transport.

The printing date of the stamps is unknown. Based of the “Signed for” (Registered) letter (Figure 3), it has however to have been before 21st August 1923. It is interesting that all overprinted stamps only became void on 30th September 1923! This raises the question: where did the money for the stamps come from? The cost of one sheet of stamps was 565 Mark. It is likely that more than one sheet was overprinted. Had the Scouts offered their pocket money, or was there somebody who “sponsored” it? The price of a 20gr. letter on 1st August 1923 was still 1000 Mark.



Postage paid for the “Signed for” letter is correct at 2000 Mark. The additional “Donation” stamps were void, although they have been postmarked. It is a possibility that this was unknown to the Postmaster. After all, new stamps were issued almost daily. Or maybe it was a mistake? Perhaps he just had a heart for Scouting?



I'm writing this small piece with two hats on - Editor and Treasurer - to open discussions on the future publishing of the Bulletin.

Since I put the very brief bit in the Editorial of the previous issue I have had a small selection of responses which can be divided simply into those who have computers and think its a great idea and those who don't who are not interested at all.

Can I make one thing clear from the start in that any change would not be exclusive to one system and would certainly not be compulsory. This means that even if you are not interested in the electronic version you would still receive a "hard" copy.

So, in simple terms, what am I talking about?

If you look back at the accounts it is clear that the Bulletin is, quite rightly, the single biggest cost to the Club each year. The cost is made up of four elements:-

Firstly, the paper; secondly, the printing; thirdly, envelopes and fourthly, postage.

It is an inevitable process, especially in the current economic situation, that all of these are rising and will continue so for the foreseeable future. To keep the Club solvent we must find ways of reducing some more of the four costs - and we already get a great deal of help in this area from my friends at One Stop Scouting Ltd. who do our printing and also send out the finished items by franked mail which is considerably cheaper than normal postage rates.

It seems to me that there are only two options (other than increasing subs):-

1. Reduce the publication frequency to four issues per year.
2. Issue as many copies as possible electronically, keeping to six issues.

I would imagine that members would prefer not to go down route 1) so that leaves us with examining route 2). We already include past copies of the Bulletin on our web-site and this will continue. What we can do is either to e-mail out the completed Bulletin as a pdf. document or post it onto the Bulletin in a restricted area which will only allow it to be downloaded by those with the specific password.

Personally I would prefer an amalgam of both where we mail out the finished Bulletin by e-mail to those who choose, as soon as it is ready and in full colour, and then subsequently add the issues to the web-site, something like two or three issues in arrears, to maintain membership benefits.

Thanks to those who have already written on the subject but I would prefer to see some more thoughts before we actually make a final decision and offer the options to all the membership.

The Warsaw Uprising.

There are members of our club who have memories of the 2nd World War, and some own collections that boast rare items from this period with expertise to match. This article is written for those who have very little idea of the considerable Scout involvement in this heroic struggle. It is but an 'overview', written from a very personal standpoint after a recent visit to Warsaw in the company of our former Chairman John Ineson. (The author hopes to write a more detailed assessment of Scouting's involvement in the Uprising in a forthcoming book).

It is widely known that the immediate cause of the 2nd World War was the German invasion, without warning, on Poland on 1st September 1939. Poland, a proud nation, had a long Scouting history, starting in 1910 when Andrzej Małkowski translated *Scouting for Boys* into Polish. Importantly, by the outbreak of war, the Scout Movement was much respected, particularly as it had been banned in neighbouring Communist states. In the first fourteen days 600,000 Poles were killed. The Nazis saw Scouting as a subversive activity and so it was driven underground. Some Scout Leaders were executed and others sent to Concentration Camps.

Separate battalions of Scout resistance were formed, often strengthened by returning ex Scout soldiers from the defeated Polish army. Together they formed the 'Grey Army' (also known as the 'Grey Ranks') which was part of the 'Home Army' known by its initials the 'AK'. The most famous battalions were Zośka (specialising in sabotage) and Parasol (direct action against individuals).



The 'Kotwica', now the symbol of the uprising, was first painted on buildings by Polish Scouts from March 20th 1942. It is seen here on the watch tower of the Uprising Museum.

In late July 1944 it looked at last as though Warsaw might be liberated, as the Russians were closing in from the East and the Allies from the West. On August 1st 1944 (the exact time was known as W hour) the civilian population rose up against their oppressors in an action that was meant only to divert the enemy, and so assist the liberating forces. The much awaited relief however never arrived. The British ran into difficulties trying to cross the heavily defended Vistula River, and the Communists under Stalin,

who had a deep seated hatred of the Poles, sat back and waited for the Germans (some 30,000 strong) to raze Warsaw to the ground.

Initially there were some successes. The 'Home Army' succeeded in establishing separate enclaves, but these were cut off from each other, initially with no means of communication. The Patriots were much hampered by the existence of spies within their ranks who had alerted the enemy to the supposedly secret starting time/date of the insurrection.

Against this background, the Germans under Himmler began a systematic destruction of the city (which was graphically portrayed in the recent film 'The Pianist'). Mass executions took place, 30,000 alone died in what is now referred to as the Wola Massacre. The civilian population took to living underground and, as always in siege conditions, their immediate concern was to communicate with family members in different enclaves and coordinate action against the enemy.

Scoutmaster Kazimierz Grenda, started a postal service in his Central-Southern District on the second day of the Uprising August 2nd, and, as this was successful, Scout Headquarters organised a postal service for all 'liberated' parts of the city. Scout leaders, particularly Przemyslaw Górecki, who commanded the 'field post office', established routes through the sewer system, criss-crossing the entire city. A main post office was established with eight subsidiaries, all with their own post-boxes painted in patriotic red with the white eagle of Poland. A total of 40 post-boxes served the town.



Messages were delivered free of charge but donations in the form of books, dressings or food were welcomed. The letters were censored to avoid correspondents divulging information that would be useful to the enemy and supposedly limited to 25 words, but many exceptions have been found to this rule.

Girl Guides acted as couriers above the ground, and boys of Cub age were formed into a section named 'Mafeking' (a reference to the work of the Mafeking Cadets for Baden-Powell in another famous Siege) did sorting duties. All the insurgents adopted 'code names' to help avoid the spread of information should any be captured, as some unfortunately were. At least 600 of the Scouts/Guides involved lost their lives. The scale of the postal operation was massive, some 3000 to 6000 items were delivered daily. It peaked at 10,000 on August 13th and it was reported by the 'underground' newspaper that 116,317 pieces of mail were delivered in total.

Guides were also amongst the fallen, e.g. Celina Pastusko, 'Wanda', aged 17, was killed during a bombardment on September 4th 1944. She was a Girl Scout in the

50th Warsaw Regiment and worked as a 'contact box' for the 101st Scout Platoon and as a medical orderly.

Initially the mails were cancelled with potato print representations of the Fleur de lys, but later more durable lino and wood block 'dies' were made and used with different coloured inks. Good examples of 'potato prints' on a cover or specially printed postcards can cost £4000-£5000, but like the Mafeking Siege Mail this has to be viewed against the cost in human blood.

The insurgents managed to hold out for 63 days until 2nd



All the insurgents wore armbands in Polish national colours. Some carried battalion numbers etc. This rare example in the Uprising Museum is complete with the Scout Fleur de Lys.

October 1944 when the Russians were at the eastern edge of the city. 85% of all buildings had been destroyed. Unfortunately the Communists were no kinder to inhabitants, or to Scouting, than the Nazis. Resistance leaders, including Scouts, were rounded up and executed or sent to labour camps. The Russians enforced a total suppression of Scouting and any mention of the Uprising.

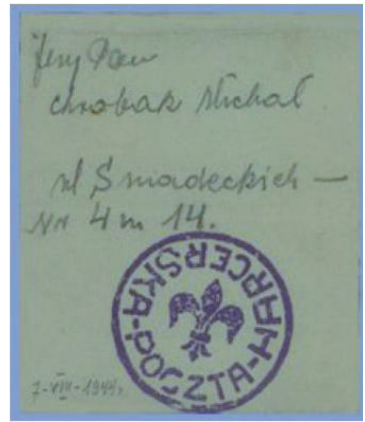
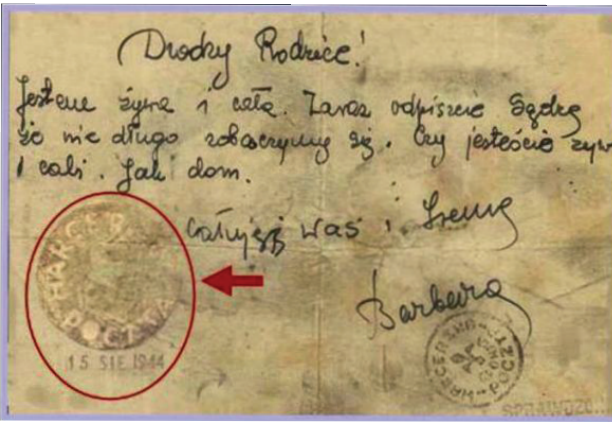
It was not until the end of Communism from Poland in 1989 that the true extent of Scout involvement in the Uprising could at last be

told, not only to the outside world, but to the rising generation of post-war Poles.

In 1956, while renovating the main Post Office in Warsaw, workers found a skeleton of a Boy Scout courier still with his postbag of undelivered mail. A private individual purchased the contents of the postbag, and set about trying to restore the letters to the families concerned.

Our all too short visit to Warsaw started at the centrally located Uprising Museum founded in 2004, to celebrate the 60th Anniversary. It is open every day except Tuesday, with free admission on Sundays, but perhaps this is a day to be avoided as the attraction is very popular with numerous guided parties and long queues for film presentations, even on charged days. There is a small room that is dedicated to the role of Scouts and Guides which includes photographs, armbands, badges, and many 'sewer mails' showing various postmarks. In the main halls there are a series of 'cameo' photographs of individual Scouts and Guides, complete with their stories (such as that of 'Wanda'), which tragically almost all conclude with the death date of the young subject.





The illustrated items on this page are from the collection of ZT Bokiewicz who was a Scout in Warsaw during the Uprising. He has written many books and articles on the subjects. The 'potato print' cancellation with the very pale 'fleur' (above left) and a later (3rd) variation (above) with the 'Insurgents Army Field Post Stamps' below are reproduced with the consent of the Polish Underground Movement 1939-45 Study Trust, which can be found using Google.



Bokeiwitz (see above) writes that in early Sept. 1944, an 'Insurgents Army Field Post' stamp was issued in five colours; red; yellow-brown; grey-green; grey-blue, and grey brown; one for each of the liberated enclaves. Each district was supplied with 2750 stamps, making 13,750 in total. Of these, 8,000 were destroyed when the Main Post Office was bombed. Few of these stamps survive in good condition.

As many 'normal' activities as possible were continued despite the shelling and bombing. Newspapers and indeed books were published and newsreels were made

and shown in public cinemas. The Scout Post Office, albeit initially with its homemade cancellations, but later with these printed stamps, were a source of great pride in the enclaves, being one of the few signs that a Polish 'administration' was at work.

Though the National Scout Headquarters in Warsaw is closed at weekends, we were able to visit their small but interesting museum in 6 Konopnickiej Street. John having taken the precaution of corres-ponding with the Polish International Commissioner. It seemed from talking to the security guards who controlled our entry, that this 'out of hours' arrangement was quite a normal procedure.



The museum covers all of Poland's Scouting History but there is an excellent section on the Uprising. A very high proportion of the exhibits seem to feature if not concentrate on Scout Postal History.

Close to the western edge of the walls of the Old Town is the Statue of the 'Little Insurgent' erected in 1983. It depicts 13 year old 'Antek', a flamethrower specialist, who was killed in action close to the scene on August 8th, 1944. The statue was funded by collections undertaken by Scouts. It is reproduced in metal and

'pot' as fridge magnets etc, on sale at nearby stalls. At the time of our visit, the statue was bedecked with two neckerchiefs. On first sight, particularly to tourists not aware of its significance, the statue appears to be somewhat comic. Antek's adult cast off jacket is secured round his waste by a belt, leaving its lower part looking like a skirt, and the adult sized helmet and boots similarly do not help. There can however be few other Scouting statues as poignant or as loved as this.



The plaque, set into wall behind the statue, carries a representation of the Polish Scout metal hat badge which has been used since 1939.



Our last visit on a beautiful Sunday afternoon, was to the old Military Cemetery in the Powacki district to the north west of the city, part of which is given over to the graves of Scouts and Guides killed during the Uprising. They are easily distinguished from all others, as the silver birch crosses stand out starkly from their sombre background. I counted 119 such memorials, some carrying several metal name markers. A few were poignantly marked by photographs, Scout badges and neckerchiefs, or had little spirit lamps showing that families still visited on a regular basis.

Alongside the crosses, were the black marble stone memorials set up by the Polish Scout Association with deeply carved names, listed in battalions, recording the fallen. Quite a few names however were without a death date, which we took to be a fitting recognition of those brother Scouts who took part in the Uprising but are still living.

As 'Colin's Corner' usually concerns itself with promoting the collecting of paper items other than stamps, it is fitting to conclude with details of a game that I purchased in the Uprising Museum, entitled *Wali Powstańcy*. It comprises a high quality board, depicting the city and its sewers, with press-out figures of Scout and Guide 'postmen' complete with authentic code names. They are, drawn in a style similar to that of the 'Little Insurgent' statue and clip into plastic stands. A dice is rolled to advance these figures through the sewers where, by the provision of Monopoly style 'chance' cards, they meet with authentic adventures. The game costs around £12 and is excellent value, particularly as the price 'on line' in the US is nearly four times that amount, with additional postage costs to the UK.



Most of the enclosures in the box are in several languages, including English, but the rules and the various cards are unfortunately just in Polish. The website, *Board Game Geek* however provides the rules and downloads of the cards in English. The game has had good reviews and would be an excellent tool to introduce youngsters to Scouting



Any readers who may be considering a trip to Warsaw and would like to visit any of the sites mentioned are invited to make contact for their precise locations etc.

SCOUT & GUIDE STAMPS CLUB

Club Website: www.sgsc.org.uk

President: Peter Duck

9 Broadlands Court, Kew Gardens Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3HW
(Tel: 020 8948 5617)
e-mail:- audreyduck1@hotmail.com

Vice President: Ronald Howard

7 St. Marys Close, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, Wilts SP5 5NH
(Tel: 01725-552203)
e-mail:- diron.howard@bittersweet

Chairman & Junior Section: Melvyn Gallagher

47 Sycamore Avenue, Upminster, Essex RM14 2HR (Tel: 01708-224167)
e-mail:- mgallagher@mgnet.freeseve.co.uk

Vice-Chairman: Bernard Tewksbury

11 Claypits Road, Boreham, Chelmsford, Essex. CM3 3BZ (Tel: 01245 468835)

Editor & Treasurer: Terry Simister

1 Falcon Way, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8AY (Tel: 01245-251190)
e-mail:- terry.simister@blueyonder.co.uk

Secretary: Graham Osborne

3 Camberry Close, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 3AG (Tel: 01256-328831)
e-mail:- camberry@tiscali.co.uk

Membership Secretary: Tim Reed

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

Committee Members:

Randall Frank, Bob Lee (ex-officio)

Web Master:

Randall Frank, Box 7638 Newport Beach, California 92658, USA.
e-mail:- rfrank@sgsc.org



Extra photographs to accompany Colin Walker's article on The Warsaw Uprising. The locations and details will be very clear from the text