

Scout and Guide Stamps Club

BULLETIN

Volume 57 No. 5 (Whole No. 331)



See Colin Walker's article on Rover Scouts and their moots starting on page 17

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER



Editorial

Here we go then approaching the end of another year and then the start of 2014. It really doesn't seem that long ago that I went to the World Jamboree in Korea (1991) then we had the anticipated Millennium Bug (2000) and finally the World Jamboree in the UK (2007). How time flies when you're having fun!

There is a lengthy article from Colin Walker regarding Rover Moots which I have published in full as I'm sure that everyone will find the information to be interesting. I did manage to become a Rover Scout in the UK myself, in 1962, but this was fairly short lived as the Crew members seemed to slowly move away - leaving just two of us - and then Nationally we abolished the section. I do often wish that the UK Headquarters had had the courage to admit that they were wrong and to re-establish the Rover Scouts rather than some of the sectional names that they have invented since.

On the health front I am still swallowing about sixteen tablets a day and am now scheduled to have my corrective cardio-version procedure on 11th October. I am also having a full heart scan beforehand so perhaps when this is all over I will be able to get back to something approaching a normal life. I really would welcome it as it is quite draining to continue knowing that you can't do the work around the house that you used to do - and this is leaving my poor wife Betty with a lot of extra work.

Terry Simister

FUTURE COPY DATES

November 19th, January 19th and March 16th

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

FUTURE MEETINGS

We are still intending to hold regular meetings in the UK during the Stampex Exhibitions each year. The next of these will be at Spring Stampex: 20th - 23rd February 2013 and then at Autumn Stampex: 18th - 21st September

Please don't forget that if you would like to receive a copy of this issue and all further issues of the Bulletin by electronic mail just send the following message to me at terry.simister@blueyonder.co.uk :- I would like to receive future copies of the Scout and Guide Stamps Club Bulletin by electronic mail and the appropriate documents should be sent to the address used for this transmission.

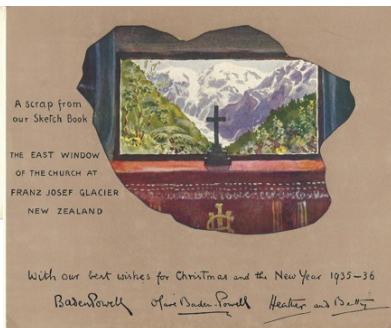
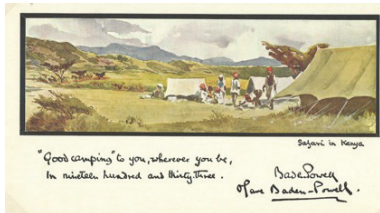
On November 11th Britain remembers those who lost their lives in all our wars and many Scouts and Guides take part in Remembrance services. The role of our young members during the second world war is often understated but they undertook a wide range of valuable roles on the "home front" when many adults in the Movements were called up for military service. They helped in hospitals, air raid precautions, the fire service, worked as messengers, collected scrap metal and raised funds for the war effort. During this work many were injured and some were killed, as indeed were the adult members who were fighting. It was recently realised that at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire there are memorials for many civilian and youth organisations with the notable exception of the Scout Association. (Ed: My wife and I commented on this major omission when we visited the site earlier this year and were told it was up to the organisations to organise themselves and request a position - the Guide Association having already done so!) This omission is now belatedly being addressed by the Birmingham Scouts (rather than the National Headquarters who should have taken the lead,) who are raising funds through the sale of badges to raise £80,000 for a suitable memorial. Further details can be found on their e-mail address Memorial@birminghamscouts.org.uk. (or website: <http://www.tsmp.org.uk>).

War work by Scouts and Guides can be seen on stamps and postcards, such as this one showing an air ambulance bought by the Girl Guides of the Empire in 1940



A member of the International Badgers Club recently wrote in their magazine *The Sett* "Once again the editor is apologising for lack of copy. In no way do I blame the editor as he can only publish what he is supplied with. Last summer I visited my sister who is a member of the Scout Stamp Collectors Club (sic), the quality of the articles in their magazine was far superior. They also had an article in each magazine from Colin Walker. If you have read Colin's books you will have learned much about all manner of Scout memorabilia. They also had a lively letters section discussing how they could attract new and younger members". It is good to get praise!

As many of our members also collect paper ephemera, I was sorry to see for sale on eBay that "outerkom" from South Africa has been selling a number of Baden-Powell Christmas cards at very high prices. The reason for this is that he has been describing



them, as "A very unique and desirable collector's piece not seen before and having original autographs" and with that description, those buying them have been paying many times their

actual value. A number of people have written to him and to eBay to say that they were not original signatures, but as he was making a considerable amount of money, and eBay were raking in big commission, nothing was done to stop this cheating. I wrote to him, and he replied "Thank you, the cards are described and detailed as per item description" whatever that means! The Oak sold for £721 (US\$ 1140, €855), Kenya Sold for £412 (US\$ 650 €490) and the sketch from New Zealand Sold for £790 (US\$ 1250 € 930). These cards normally sell for £100 or less.

Some very high prices were made in August at the Eur-Seree auction held during the International Stamp Exhibition in Thailand. Included was the Gold Medal Award collection of the late Pakdi Yongvanich, a former President of the Philatelist Association of Thailand, which was undoubtedly the finest Siam Scout Fund Issues to have ever been offered in auction. Some 50 Scout lots were sold including mint and used postcards, covers, large mint blocks (including a full sheet of 100 of the 15st from the third issue). The most expensive lot in the sale was the registered cover sent from Nakor Pathom to Bangkok with a complete set of the Type 1 overprints (overleaf). This made 390,000 Baht with an approximate exchange rate as I write in mid September of £7,765, (US\$ 12,285, €9,230) - (See overleaf)



You may recall that I wrote in my last “Jottings” “Caveat emptor” – buyer beware”. I have noticed that a seller in Hong Kong has for over a year been offering for sale what I consider to be modern reproductions of souvenir metal badges from the 1929 Jamboree onwards. These include belt buckles from 1933 and 1947 as well as metal stave badges. I have also been informed that cloth badges are also being reproduced. From the photographs on eBay, they look to be superb reproductions and are selling well.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES FROM 1ST APRIL, 2014

To try to improve the Club’s general financial position - and make allowance for those now receiving electronic copies - the Committee have decided that there will be a small increase in some subscription rates with effect from 1st April, 2014. The new rates, which also offer a discount for the five year membership, are as follows:

TYPE	POSTAL SERVICE		ELECTRONIC SERVICE	
	1 YEAR	5 YEARS	1 YEAR	5 YEARS
UK INDIVIDUALS AND SECTIONS	£18	£85	£12	£55
EUROPE AIRMAIL	£21	£100	£15	£70
REST OF WORLD AIRMAIL	£26	£125	£20	£95
JUNIORS ALL WORLD	£6	NOT AVAILABLE	£5	NOT AVAILABLE

To best explain the postal story of this event, it should be known that originally the organizers of the 14th World Moot had no intention on providing any postal services at all. They had communicated months before, that participants could send mail from the cities they would visit during the event. They had not looked into having stamps made, creating a special postmark or physically sending out mail.

Upon arriving almost a week before the event and starting my staff duties, I had the opportunity to explain the possibility of how mail could be sent out. The Organizing committee and Camp Chief were happy enough to ask me to move forward on my idea.

In doing so, I became the Postmaster of this 14th World Moot. I visited the post office to tell them about the event and how they could be involved. The post office that serviced this “Camp Awacamenj Mino” had their post box in this building located in Duclos, Quebec. This village was located over 10 miles away. Awacamenj Mino’s Camp Director had informed me beforehand, that the post box was only visited normally less than once a week. This was unacceptable for this event so I would be this for the next few weeks.

The Duclos, Quebec Post Office was in a front room of a postal workers home, in a village of about 20 buildings. Three ladies made up the staff and with a single vehicle, serviced a large rural area. They were very accommodating, but as this facility was not prepared to supply the stamps needed. I had to purchase them at a larger post office in the Ottawa area, which was about 40 miles away.

These stamps I purchased were turned over to the Moots Scout Shop. Standard Canadian Stamps were sold at two values only \$1.85 and the Canadian Permanent domestic Rate. After they ran out of the original lot, the shop acquired additional stamps from the city of Ottawa as needed. They also realized there was a need for postcards and produced two for sale.

Having recalled how the organizers of the 22nd world jamboree in Sweden, produced 10 different stamps for onsite distribution. I decided to do the same, designing 14 stamps (900 pieces total) which were made by the Picture Postage Stamp Department of “Post Canada”. Being limited, these stamps were targeted to several interested/enthusiastic parties during the course of the event. Also created was one rubber hand stamp for the “first day” and another, dated “August 8-18, 2013”, which was used throughout the event. A red vinyl box and stand was acquired. On the side of this box, I cut a slot for placing mail in and attached a waterproof “MAIL/POSTE” sign. A “Price List” sign was also created for the scout shop.



I collected the mail from this red box on a daily bases, which was placed just outside the scout shop. I then placed the Moot Seal on the mail in the camp, before transporting them to the post office. This procedure reminded me of the first World Jamboree in 1920, when the organisers stamped all outgoing mail with a Purple Cachet. Then it was brought to the Richmond Surrey Post Office for cancelling and posting. At the Postal Facility in Duclos, all the stamps were impressed once again with the Canada's post dated cancel. It should be known that a recent policy of the Canadian Post is now NOT TO CANCEL mail unless requested.



Incoming mail would be given to me for the camp, each time I made deliveries to the Post office. These pieces of mail I would hand deliver personally to the respective country contingent headquarters or to the sub camp, if they had been marked. One package was registered. Getting the registered slip signed for, back at the camp. I then had to co-sign it, when I returned the slip for picking up the package. In the end, 1,639 pieces of mail went out, in which 1,587 were postcards. Among those that went out, 13 pieces were registered. Thirty-two pieces arrived, which were made up of 26 letters and 6 packages. I came upon four pieces of mail at the post office on August 19, which was a day after the Moot ended. I gave instructions that three of them were to be returned to the senders. One did not have a return address. So I instructed that it was to be delivered to the camp, so the name could be found among the list of participants and the forwarded to that persons Home Address.

Correspondence

by Graham Osborne. Secretary.

As Secretary I have been in communication with a member who, because of his location, is unable to attend meetings in the South East. He has a number of concerns but, not being able to attend SGSC meetings, is not able to air them at meetings. In my contact with him I suggested that he should set out his concerns in articles for the Bulletin. This he has done and these follow. But first some background to his articles.

His first concern is based on the fact that the Club is very much centred on the South East of England. This is, of course, primarily because most the Club's Officers and Members come from the South East, not because there is some underhand plan to make it so. Naturally, and no doubt because of this, many of the Club's meetings and other activities take place in the South East. The consequence of this is that he feels that the interests of members in other regions of the UK are not fully considered or are even ignored.

Below he sets out one way that the Club may overcome this. At this stage this is just a suggestion which the Committee has yet to consider. There are a number of issues that clearly need to be considered, such as: how would the regional representatives be appointed; how many should there be; would they have a "vote" in decision making; would they represent particular geographical areas or would they represent a particular number of members; what would their "role" be in the running of the Club; would there be a need to change the Club's Constitution; and no doubt many other issues.

Enough of the background, here is his first article:-

"Your Country Needs You." Members may recall this famous but perhaps cynical quotation. Your Club does however need you. We are considering appointing regional representatives with a little spare time to help us recruit members from the regions. In return you would join the Committee as a regional representative offering guidance on regional matters and thus building a strong future for all. The Club so far has had an

offer from Wales (others may apply). Come on England and Scotland do not let the Dragon have all the glory.”

Well, what do you think about the suggestion to have regional representatives?

At the Club’s recent AGM those present learnt that, coupled with a decline in membership, the Club’s expenditure was exceeding its income. Clearly this is not a situation which can continue and a number of suggestions were put forward to remedy this including an increase in subscriptions and an appeal for donated items for a Club Auction to raise funds solely for the Club. Doubt was expressed at the AGM whether such an appeal would bring forth enough items to raise sufficient funds for the Club. The member I was in contact with disputed this and felt that an appeal direct to members would bring forth results. What do you think? Should we rely on a positive response to such an appeal to take the Club forward? Or should subscriptions be increased?

“ Are you struggling to make ends meet? Endless bills? Cash short? This could be **your** Club. Things are desperate; time is short; we may close down. Could you help by donating a Scout/Guide related object for sale in a Club auction? (If you prefer to sell it yourself on the internet could you donate it the proceeds?) If you are one of the lucky ones a cash donation (£5?)(one off) would be very acceptable. If you are extremely lucky, having just won the Lottery a donation of both will receive our eternal gratitude. We are not begging but we do need **EACH** members support. Please help us.”

The Committee are interested to learn of your views in respect of these two issues - or of any other thoughts or suggestions you might have regarding the running of **your** Club and its future.

With my thanks to the member who provided these two articles.

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.

FAN FANTASY STAMPS as mentioned in Notes from the President – complete series of 6 sheets 10.00

A MISCELLANY FROM STOCK;

AUS68C AUSTRALIA 1968 Girl Guides Lismore Muster, Bank of NSW postcard		0.50
AUS71C AUSTRALIA 1971 9 th Australian Jamboree CBC Bank postcard		0.50
AUS08L AUSTRALIA 2008 Centenary of Australian Scouting self adhesive label		0.25
BRB96U BARBUDA 1995 18 th World Jamboree (overprints on Antigua) (6)	USED	3.00
BRB96SU BARBUDA 1995 18 th world Jamboree 2 x MS	USED	4.00
BEL66L BELGIUM 1966 label commemorating 50 years of Sea Scouting		0.15
CAL73 CALF OF MAN (Isle of Man local) 1973 Birds with Scout badge (16)	MINT	2.00
CZE87L CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1987 label commemorating 75 years of Scouting		0.10
CZE91F CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1991 Honouring A.B.Svojsik, Scouting Founder (1) on first day piece		0.25
FUJ70G FUJEIRA 1970 Philypia issue with Baden-Powell – gold foil (1)	MINT	5.00
FUJ71G FUJEIRA 1971 13 th World Jamboree gold foil stamp with B-P (1)	MINT	4.00
FUJ71S FUJEIRA 1971 13 th World Jamboree silver foil stamp with B-P (1)	MINT	4.00
GB65L G.B. 1965 Brentford & Chiswick Jamborette – sheetlet of 6 labels		0.40
GUY87U GUYANA 1987 16 th World Jamboree (1)	USED	0.25
HK71U HONG KONG 1971 Diamond Jubilee of Scouting (3)	USED	4.00
INA86 INDONESIA 1986 National Jamboree (3) USED on paper with first day PMK		0.60
LAV72L LATVIA 1972 50 th Anniversary of Girl Guides labels in two language versions		0.20
LEB62 LEBANON 1962 Scouting commemorative (8)	MINT (mounted)	1.00
MAV86 MALDIVES 1986 60 th Birthday of Queen Elizabeth – Guide value (1)	MINT	0.20
MAU84 MAURITANIA 1984 Famous Men – Baden-Powell (1)	MINT	0.20
NL49U NETHERLANDS 1949 Cultural & Social Relief Fund (5 – including Scouts)	USED	2.00
NC82 NEW CALEDONIA 1982 50 th Anniversary of Scouting (1)	MINT	1.25
OMA82 STATE OF OMAN 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting (4 in sheetlet)	MINT	0.60
OMA82S STATE OF OMAN 1982 75 th Anniversary of World Scouting (2 x MS)	MINT	0.60
PHL73A PHILIPPINES 1973 Golden Jubilee of Scouting (2) imperforate	MINT	0.60
PHL68 PHILIPPINES 1968 Olympic Winners MS with Scout badges .Unofficial – Specimen	MINT	4.00
ROM31U ROMANIA 1931 Scout Exhibition (5)	USED	5.00
ROM34U ROMANIA 1934 National Jamboree Mamaia (6)	USED	11.00
ROM35U ROMANIA 1935 King Carol's Accession issue (5)	USED	8.50
ROM36U ROMANIA 1936 National Jamboree, Brasov (3)	USED	4.00
SAM99 SAMOA 1999 The Queen Mother's Century \$2 Inspecting Scouts (1)	MINT	0.65
TWN57LA TAIWAN 1957 Scout Week labels – block of 4 showing camp scenes		0.50
TWN57LB TAIWAN 1957 Scout Week labels – block of 4 showing Scouts with staves		0.50
TAN92S TANZANIA 1992 Honouring Lord Baden-Powell MS	MINT	3.50
TOG61SA TOGO 1961 Scouting commemorative MS – with simulated perforations	MINT	5.00
TOG61SB TOGO 1961 Scouting commemorative MS – without perforations	MINT	5.00
TON80 TONGA 1980 South Pacific Jamboree (10)	MINT	6.50
TON90 TONGA 1990 150 th Anny of 1 st postage stamps – reproducing 1980 Jam. stamp (1)	MINT	1.75
UKR71L UKRAINE 1971 label for 50 Years of Ukrainian Scouts in Exile		0.20
UKR96 UKRAINE 1996 Large Scout badge overprints on former USSR stamps – 3 types	MINT	0.60
USA82C U.S.A. 1982 "Scouting – A World Tradition" large card reproducing earlier Scout stamps + PMK		1.00

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Peter Duck

(These notes were actually written in July, but somehow got lost between myself and Terry.)

It is with great sadness that I report the death of my dear wife Audrey, who passed away on 28 June 2013 at the age of 77. Many of our members knew her personally, and others through our correspondence.

She had been a great support to our club, mainly in the 1970's-80's when she helped with organising our various exhibitions at Baden-Powell House. For a few years, Audrey was an ex officio member of our committee.

In 1975 we attended the 14th World Jamboree NORDJAMB in Norway where we helped at the "Stamp Bank". Also we were at three of the Blair Atholl International Camps as well as two Welsh Jamborees. I have a lovely picture of her with Chief Scout Michael Walsh at Blair Atholl during the Year of the Scout 1982.



Although from a Guiding background, she became a member of the Scout Fellowship. In 2002 she was awarded the M.B.E. by the Queen for her charity work, both locally and nationally.

A great loss for me, and our many friends.

With this issue of the Bulletin, you should receive the catalogue for our next Auction. Plenty of interesting items of offer, as always. And as you know, a percentage from the sales goes into Club funds. When you study the accounts for the past year (in the last Bulletin) you can see that we are not doing so well. This is mainly due to the lack of income generated by subscriptions. The lack (or shortage) of new members is

contributing to this state of affairs. Although, members who are taking their Bulletins electronically, are helping to balance the deficit.

Perhaps some useful suggestions will have been made at our AGM on 13 July. But in any case, please study the Auction list, and bid for a few items which might enhance your collection. Thank you.

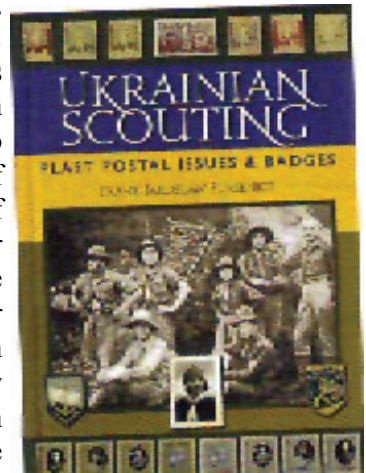
Although mentioned by him in the last Bulletin, I am delighted to announce the re-appointment of John Ineson as Honorary Vice-President of our club. John was Vice-President between 1990 and 1997, when he took up the position of Chairman. With a Membership number of 56, he is the longest standing member of SGSC. John has served us nobly in many directions, not least in the organisation of the EUROSCOUT Exhibition in 2010 at Chelmsford.

UKRAINIAN SCOUTING. PLAST POSTAL ISSUES AND BADGES. A new book

by Frank Jaroslaw Fursenko, 11 Amber Woods Drive, Glensides, SA 5065, Australia.

(frank@frankfursenko.com). The volume comprises 512 pages and is available from Frank at 65 Australian Dollars + postage. – it is very heavy and expensive to post!

A fascinating book which includes the history of the Ukrainian nation, and its struggle in and out of independence throughout the centuries. Scouting (or Plast) began in 1911, but mainly survived in exile following firstly the Soviet expansion, then World War II. After 1945, Ukrainians found themselves in Displaced Persons Camps in Germany, where many Scout Troops were formed along with Scouts from other refugee nations. Following the closure of the D.P.Camps in 1950, Ukrainians found themselves in many countries, mainly Canada, U.S.A. Great Britain, Australia and Argentina. Scout Troops were founded in all of these countries, and they held many Jamborees and Camps which were commemorated philatelically.



In 1963, I was working in the Post Office at the 11th World Jamboree at Marathon in Greece, and we received a letter addressed to the Ukrainian Scouts in Exile. Naturally, I made a personal delivery of the letter to the addressee, and was able to obtain some of their souvenirs produced for the Jamboree. Also, I still have the original envelope in my collection.

From 1991, Ukraine became an independent nation again, and Scouting now flourishes there. Plast units also still exist in the countries where Ukrainians have integrated with local populations. Plast is a name derived from the Cossack units who populated Ukraine for centuries.

FANTASY STAMPS, as if the King, Edward VIII, had not been forced to abdicate in 1936, but had continued to be King until his death in 1972.

The author of this article states:” The whole idea of this was born out of the Fantasy Stamps produced by the great Gerald King, who produced the most interesting and humorous `Alice Through the Pillar Box` stamps. I started putting together this fantasy series of stamps in 2008, and after re-designing all the 1936 – 1972 U.K. stamps, I realised the job was not over, as many U.K. stamps were overprinted for use in Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Trucial States and Morocco, also the former Italian colonies in Africa during this period, so I had the relevant ones reprinted with overprints.

All the profits from the sale of these fantasy sheets goes to the Scarborough (UK) Philatelic Society.

These are all printed on gummed paper, no watermarks, and the perforations are also just printed (not real). The sizes of the `stamps` are nearly the size of actually issued real stamps. None of them was ever issued to prepay postage anywhere in the world, and they cannot be used as postage stamps.”

The blocks of “stamps” comprise four designs, each with the portrait of King Edward VIII.

1. 2 ½d value in scarlet showing Jubilee Jamboree badge.
2. 4d value in blue showing view of campsite and flags.
3. (no value) in brown with reversed Jagger portrait of B-P, plus B-P on Brownsea.
4. 1/3d value in green with same design as official Jubilee Jamboree 1/3d stamp.

A revised block was issued with the undenominated “stamp” priced at 1/-.

The overprinted issues are as follows:

BAHRAIN revalued to 15, 25, 60,& 75NP.

KUWAIT as above.

QATAR as above.

BRITISH POSTAL AUTHORITIES IN
EASTERN ARABIA as above.

They are most attractive items, although having no postal value. I have been fortunate in obtaining a few copies for sale, and can offer the set of six blocks @ £10.00 These will appear in the Sales Service List.

Scouts Jubilee Jamboree 1957



International Camp in Sutton Coldfield

Souvenir sheet for a set of 4 stamps that
MIGHT have been issued had King
Edward 8th not abdicated in Dec 1936

Scout Humour on postcards

Well, I asked for examples of humorous postcards depicting Scouting and, so far, three members have sent me items - fortunately from three different countries, so we will have an opportunity to compare them.

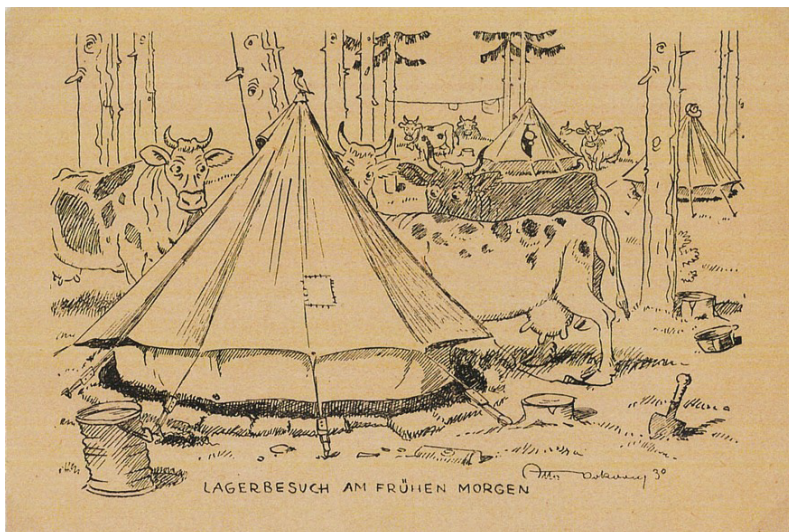
Firstly from Alex Hadden in Canada we have:



From Gottfried Steinmann in Germany:



FIRST AID



EARLY VISITORS IN THE MORNING

Scouts – Picture postcards by Otto Pokorny, Austria
(Gottfried Steinmann in collaboration with W.O. Neubäck und Horst Ziegler)

I have lots more of the illustrations from Gottfried's article for future issues.

Finally, for this issue, from John Roberts in the UK:



Rovers and their Moots

'The Powers that be' thought, in their wisdom, that Scouts that went to war in 1914 as young men would, on their victorious return, not want to rejoin their Scout groups merely as 'older Scouts'. In this they were right. However, the section they formed for the returnees, called Senior Scouts, only ran for a few months just prior to the end of the war. The earliest use of the term 'Rover' in connection with Scouting that I have been able to discover is contained in a Baden-Powell quote from the August 1918 edition of the *'Headquarters Gazette'*.

'Our pamphlet for Senior Scouts (or Rovers as they apparently desire to be called) is in the press' By the time the pamphlet was printed, its name was changed to 'Rover Scouts' and the Rover Section was born. There was to be no further mention of Senior Scouts until a new section of that name for Scouts aged between 15- 18 was formed in 1946.

Just as B-P used the Jungle Book to inspire Wolf Cubs, the founder used the legends of King Arthur's Knights of the Round Table as a basis for Roving, complete with a vigil prior to initiation to reflect on how a 'squire' (would-be Rover) proposed to dedicate his future life. Service was to be the Rovers' motto, closely allied to the ideals of Chivalry. Both individual Rovers and entire Rover Crews were tasked to define 'quests' that they would undertake to benefit the wider society in general and of course to promote the Scout Movement.

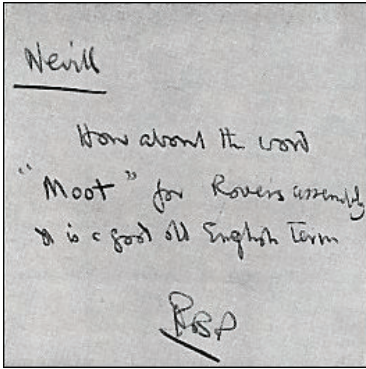
Roving to Success was published in 1922. Though often described as the Rover 'Handbook', B-P did not see the need to write down 'prescriptions' for what after all were mainly adult men. He wrote that, as far as Rovers were concerned, 'rules should be elastic'. Its content was basically a recruiting tool aimed at 'squires' awaiting initiation. The book was a great success selling over 200,000 copies. B-P explained the cover image thus:

A young man paddles his canoe, 'Good Resolution' between various 'dark rocks' towards his goal of happiness. The book's subtitle was, 'A book of Life-sport'.



Note this is a first edition by

'Sir Robert Baden-Powell Bart



The first National Rover Moot was organised at Yorks Wood, Birmingham in 1926 by the 'Chief Rover', National Commissioner for Rover Scouts, PB Nevill. He had been tasked to organise conference / Rover camp by B-P who sent him the note, illustrated opposite, suggesting what such a meeting might be called. (B-P as you might expect was quite right, the term 'Moot' was used in Old English to denote a court. meeting or assembly.) There were, at the time, over 11,500 Rover Scouts in the UK, and the notion was spreading rapidly to include most of the world's Scouting nations.

The following year another Rover Moot was held at Yorks Wood, Birmingham which was also attended by the Founder. The first World Rover Moot was held in July 1931 at Kandersteg in Switzerland. B-P stayed in the International Scouting Chalet donated by the American, Mortimer Schiff, and looked across the camping fields as the smoke from the campfires of 3000 Rovers from 23 nations rose into the evening air against the background of the Swiss Alps.

'Rover Scouts they are: A brigade, as it were of storm troops of a larger army of 2 million Boy Scouts. Their arms are alpenstocks (staves), their discipline that of Goodwill from within, their service consists not so much of fitting themselves for war as in developing the spirit of universal peace.



As at World Jamborees, a large variety of souvenirs was available for purchase at the Rover Moot's. Contingent members wore their own country's badges alongside that of the official Moot Badge, which for the Kandersteg Moot and that held four years later in Sweden, were made of metal rather than cloth.



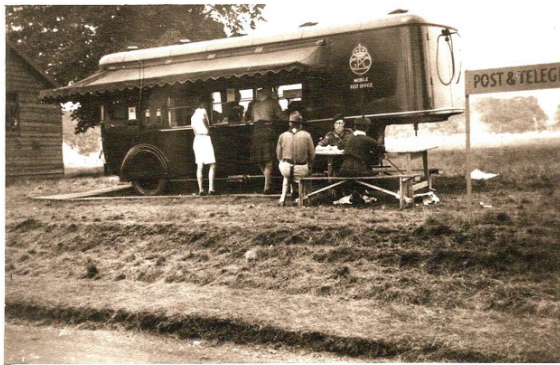
The above rare registered cover from the John Ineson collection, shows the 'Rover Lager' postmark, but note there was no official cachet or specific Rover Moot stamps



The following Moot held at Ingarö, Sweden, again had its own postmark, this time correctly indentifying the camp as a 'Rover Moot'. The envelope was provided by YMCA tent - which must have done good business given the number of these envelopes I have seen, but equally there are also 'plain' covers. I suppose the YMCA publicity counts as an official cachet?



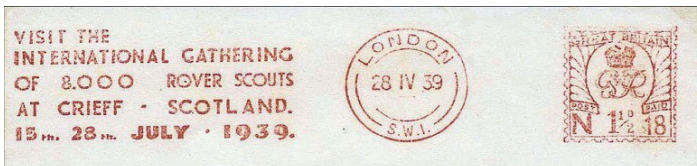
The 1939 Moot was held in July at Monzie (pronounced Monnie) Castle near Creiff, Scotland. Obviously so close to the outbreak to World War II it was not attended by a German Contingent but, despite a recorded message sent by the Founder from his home at Pax Hill Nyeri Kenya pleading for the promotion of peace, it was not to be. Just a few months later B-P's worst nightmare was played out on the battlefields. Rovers who had camped together were, in their country's service, killing each other.



An articulated Travelling Post Office (GPO 1) spent three days travelling up from London (being restricted to a 20 mph limit) to serve the camp, bringing a 'proper' pillar box, that was emptied three times a day. Letters were cancelled on site with (in my opinion) the rather pathetic 'Mobile Post Office' cancellation, having no mention of the words 'Rover' or 'Moot'. The rare Creiff registered label was applied out of

the camp was of course not specific to the Moot.

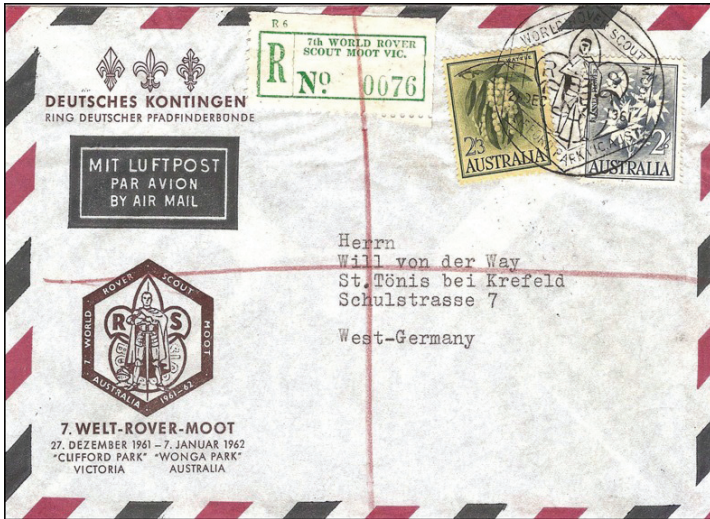
*More explicit was the 'meter mark' used in London to publicise the event, though perhaps understandably as it was intended for 'public consumption' rather than just a Scouting audience. The word 'Moot' was discarded in favour of **'International Gathering'**.*



After a ten 7 year interval including World War II, World Moors were reconvened in Skjåk, Norway.

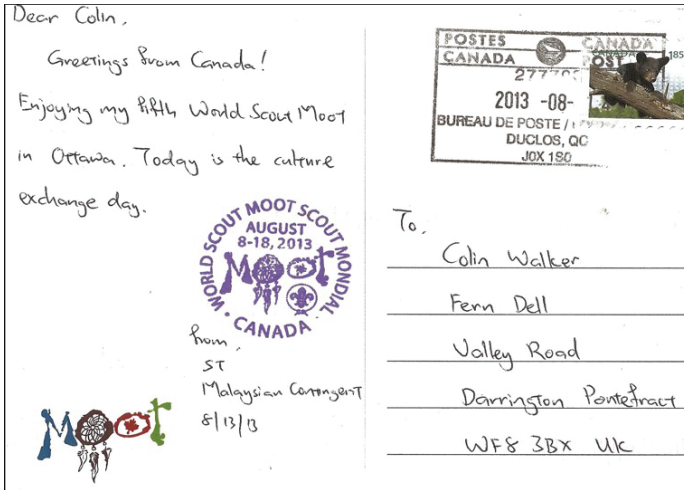
The 1957 Moot was held at Sutton Coldfield in the UK, at the JIM (Jamboree Indaba and Moot)*. The cachet, if not the stamps or the postmark is specific to the Moot. (See illustration on front cover) After the Moot, Rovers went on a week's tour of the UK camping together at various locations.

The Australian Moot of 1962 had both a special Rover cachet and a postmark and, in this case, a specific Registered Label (green) proclaiming '7th World Scout Moot Vic'. (Victoria)



In 1967, on the adoption of the Advanced Party Report, Rover Scouts were disbanded in the UK in favour of Venture Scouts (which covered a different age range, 16-20). The official reason was that the post-war baby boom had provided far more young people of Cub and Scout age, who were unable to enter Scouting because of a lack of leaders. Rovers, it was thought, were the obvious solution to the problem, being eminently qualified for leadership. This however flies in the face of the fact that all Rovers had to undertake at least 'instructor status' in the Cub or Scout sections and be attached to one or the other of them. It is a little ironic that the death of Rover Scouting should have been brought about by its own success in attracting members. The Network Section now encompasses exactly the former Rover age group of 18-25. Rover Scouts however continue to flourish in many parts of the world, especially in Australia. World Moos continue every four years but because of the absence of Rovers in some countries they are now, though for the Rover age range, called World Scout Moos.

The last such 'Moot' was held in August this year at Ottawa, Canada. As for the last (2011) World Jamboree in Sweden there was no official Post Office stamp issued to commemorate the event, however an American Scouter, with the consent of the Moot Organisers was allowed to produced a 'set' of 14 stamps comparable to the UK Post Office Smiler scheme (Individuals can pay to have their own designs printed on officially - More of this 'issue' in John's Jottings next issue). As far as I am aware there was no official Post Officer Scouting cancel for these stamps, though various hand applied cachets were applied on covers, (but not on the stamps). The example above is of a specially produced Moot postcard, with a normal Canadian stamp and postmark but with a hand-applied cachet.



I am, as readers may know, very interested in all matters pertaining to Rovers, and am currently engaged in compiling a database with images of the Badges and nametapes of British Rover Crews, (including British Forces Crews at home and abroad). Currently the list includes over 600 crews. If you can help in any way, please get in touch with me at scouting.milestones@btinternet.com

* Anybody who was present at any the 1957 J.I.M. events can attend its 57th anniversary to be held at the Gilwell Reunion next year. Please write to me for details.

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:- peterjduck@hotmail.co.uk

Vice President: John Ineson

Highfields Farm. Bures, Suffolk. CO8 5BN (Tel: 01787 227136
e-mail: jpineson@aol.com

Chairman & Junior Section: Melvyn Gallagher

47 Sycamore Avenue, Upminster, Essex RM14 2HR (Tel: 01708-224167)
e-mail:- mgallagher@mgnnet.freemove.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

Web Master:

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

A couple of my own postcards to compliment those included with the article which starts on page 14:

