

Scout and Guide Stamps Club

BULLETIN

Volume 58 No. 3 (Whole No. 335)



See article
starting on
page 13.

MAY / JUNE 2014



Editorial

Sorry this issue is a bit late but I gave Colin Walker extended time as he is finishing his new book on Scouting in the First World War.

Since my last Editorial I have completed my last Gang Show - which went very smoothly from my point of view but I'm afraid there were a lot of complaints to the DC about my going and also the prohibiting of over 25's from appearing on stage, which he has also enforced. They are trying to put together a new team so it will be interesting to see how matters progress.

I have missed out the humorous postcards from this issue as I have two interesting, but longer articles, to include. I hope that you like them.

As I am typing this I have just finished watching the 70th Anniversary of D-Day events on television and the more that I watch the more that I come to admire the bravery of ordinary people - on both sides of the divide. My own father was a gunner on merchant ships during the later stages of the war (having been on a reserved occupation in the Police for the first few years). His vessel was due to be part of the first wave of the invasion and they duly left the UK loaded up with troops early on the morning of 6th June, 1944. However they only got about half way across the English Channel when the boiler on the ship failed and they then had to limp back to Portsmouth for repairs - and in the process no doubt saving a lot of lives. The repairs took three weeks by which time the situation had changed so they were dispatched to the Far East to provide support in the continuing actions involving the Japanese. Out of the Frying pan into the fire - but he did survive the war.

Terry Simister

FUTURE COPY DATES

July 20th, September 21st and November 16th. Please send copy, including photos, electronically - where possible.

FUTURE MEETINGS UPDATE

As mentioned before we are still intending to hold regular meetings in the UK during the Stampex and Thematix Exhibitions each year.

The next of these will be at

**Docklands Scout Project, 631 Manchester Road, Dollar Bay, London E14 3NU.
Annual General Meeting starting at 14.00 on Saturday, 28th June,**

Autumn Stampex: 17th - 20th September with our meeting on 20th.

Chairman's Notes

by Melvyn Gallagher

Trading in Mafeking postage stamps and banknotes began during the siege and adverts for them appeared in the "Mafeking Mail" by entrepreneurs wanting to make a fast buck. The "Mail" of May 18th, the first day of freedom contained an advert for an auction including "At 11 o'clock will be sold a set of SIEGE STAMPS No Reserve".

After the siege ended there was even more interest shown and a list of current prices for the stamps was published in the "Mail" on June 22nd, 1900 with some very high prices indeed. The Government Gazette Notice 441 of 1st November, 1900 cancelled the validity of all the siege stamps - not that this affected their market value to collectors.

Amongst other souvenirs of the siege were postcards



No. 441-1900.]
 Department of Posts and Telegraphs
"MAFEKING BESIEGED" POSTAGE STAMPS.

It is hereby notified for general information that the postage stamps of Cape Colony and Bechuanaland Protectorate placed in circulation by the Military Authorities during the investment of Mafeking, as well as the postally issued local stamps, are not available for the payment of any article of mail matter which may be posted at any Civil Post Office in the Cape Colony. A list of the stamps referred to is published hereunder.

S. R. FRENCH,
 Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,
 1st November, 1900. (40895.)

LIST OF POSTAGE STAMPS ISSUED BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AT MAFEKING DURING THE SIEGE.

Face value.	Description.
1d.	Cape of Good Hope (old design), overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 1d. Besieged."
1d.	Cape of Good Hope (new design), overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 1d. Besieged."
1d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate," surcharged and overprinted "Mafeking 1d. Besieged."
1d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 1d. Besieged."
1d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 3d. Besieged." (Smaller type.)
1d.	Cape of Good Hope, overprinted and surcharged "Mafeking 1d. Besieged."
2d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 2d. Besieged."
2d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 6d. Besieged." (Smaller type.)
2d.	Cape of Good Hope, overprinted "Mafeking 2d. Besieged."
2d.	British Bechuanaland (Blue series), overprinted "Mafeking 2d. Besieged."
3d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 3d. Besieged."
4d.	Great Britain overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
4d.	Cape of Good Hope overprinted "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
6d.	Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" and "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
6d.	Great Britain overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
1s.	Great Britain overprinted "British Bechuanaland" and "Mafeking 1s. Besieged."
1s.	Local postage stamp with photograph of Lt.-General Baden-Powell's bust. (Small size.)
2s.	Local postage stamp with photograph of Lt.-General Baden-Powell's bust. (Larger size.)
1d.	Local postage stamp with photograph of Sergeant-Major Goolysar on bicycle.

illustrating the siege stamps still popular years later - this example posted on 11th March, 1907. One enterprising person with the initials E.B.S.M. Produced a number of postcard sized photographs the copyrighted designs of Siege stamps and banknotes together with scraps, verses and patriotic sentiments and references to



It is many years since a good offering of Mafeking has appeared on the market in the U.K. but recently Spink's of London sold the Anglo-Boer War collection of the late Harry Birkhead from South Africa. Out of the 427 lots in the auction, the Mafeking part consisted of 82 items. Some prices went way above what was considered the market price, despite the buyers premium amounting to 29% for European Union members. The buyer's premium was 20% plus VAT of 4% and as the collection came out of the EU, an extras 5% was charged. One item that went way above the estimate was the



mint 1d Goodyear cyclist dramatically misperforated which was estimated at £250-£300 but sold for £1700 (€2000 US\$2720), but if the buyer had waited for the April auction of Tony Lester, based in the West Midlands, a similar stamp sold for £460 (€540, US\$735) plus Buyers premium.

Probably the "holy grail" of Scout collecting is the 3d Baden-Powell Reversed Head stamp. One sheet of twelve stamps was printed showing B-P facing to the right, which was caused when the glass negative was placed the wrong way round for printing. Ten copies are still known to exist,

with a mint and used copy in the Royal Collection. I know that four of these stamps are in collections of SGSC members (alas not in mine!) but I consider the corner copy sold is the finest of those recorded. It sold for £34,000 (€40,100 US\$ 54,400) and if the buyer came from the EU he would have had to pay a staggering £43,860 (€51745 US\$ 70,175). Five used Large Head cracked plates sold between £1200 and £2700, but the most exceptional sale was for the B-P Large Head imperforate at the bottom and estimated at £1500-2000,



made £7000 (US\$11,200 €3250). This previously sold for £1800 at Argyll Etkin Auction in October 2001. The auctioneer's catalogue stated that the circular mark below the postmark of this stamp was a "screw hole" but I am convinced that this was a drawing pin. Our older U.K. members will recall that up until at least the 1950's drawing pins were produced by having the pin pressed out of the circular metal. When the stamps were originally produced, twelve prints were fixed to a board and then re-photographed to produce a glass negative for the sheet of twelve stamps.



SCOUTS AT WAR

Vol. I The Great War

If you enjoy reading Colin's Corner, you will enjoy this!

Colin Walker is pleased to announce the publication of his latest book, timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War. The book is informed by Baden-Powell's diaries, personal letters and artefacts from the world's leading collectors and archives. This is an in-depth researched history, written in the accessible Scouting Milestones style with warmth and humour, which will both delight and inform you.

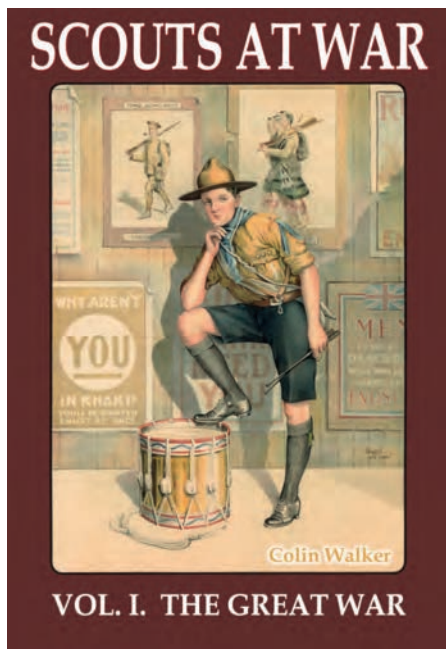
As Matt Hyde CE of the Scout Association writes in his foreword (see an abstract below):

You will read many things about the First World War in the next few years, but few as inspiring as this.

Colin Walker is one of the finest Scout historians we have, and he has done a great service in researching and documenting the Scouts' contribution to the First World War. There is so much here that will fascinate and educate those interested in what their forebears did here on the home front. Not only does he cover the familiar stories, he unearths the forgotten and unusual – the five patrols of Scouts from Northampton for example who conceivably had never seen the sea. Together they contributed 7,500 days of service as coastguards. There are also the amazing stories of the 5,000 Scouts working in the fields – 'like pirates with neckerchiefs tied around their heads', harvesting the flax, used to make linen from which our war planes were fabricated.

You will read many things about the First World War over the next few years, but few as inspiring as this – when the youth of the nation proved that young people had an invaluable role to play in society and proved they could lift spirits as well as shouldering their fair share of the work.

Matt Hyde CE Scout Association



The book is available from August 4th 2014. It is in true A4 format, printed on 'silk' paper and has over 200 coloured and black and white images. The cost is £25 plus postage and can be obtained by writing to Colin Walker at scouting.milestones@btinternet.com or at Fern Dell, Valley Road, Darrington Pontefract. WF8 3BX.

SCOUT AND GUIDE STAMPS CLUB

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 2013.

2012	Expenditure	2013	2012	Income	2013
2,576.10	Bulletin Expenditure	2,246.70	911.39	Annual Subscriptions	1040.13
			410.00	Five Year Subscriptions	908.17
0.00	Exhibitions and Meetings	20.00	200.87	Auction Income	0.00
0.00	Telephone, Post and Travel	12.40	0.00	Advertisements	95.20
0.00	Sales Service	0.00	10.40	Sales	Service
	102.60				
121.38	Stamp Insurance	101.38	164.26	Donations	96.55
64.49	Printing and Stationery	39.41	0.00	Postage	0.00
15.00	British Thematic Association	17.00			
0.00	Auction Catalogue	0.00	0.00	Interest	0.00
0.00	McKee Copyright	0.00			
284.00	Web Site	113.74	1,696.92	Active Income	2242.65
4.00	Bank Charges	0.00			
12.00	Unpaid Cheque	0.00			
3,076.97	Total Expenditure	2,550.63		Total Income	2242.65
	Excess Income over Expenditure		-1,380.05	Excess Expenditure over Income	-307.98
3,076.97		2,550.63	3,076.97		2,550.63

Statement of Funds as at 31st December, 2013

Brought Forward		Carried Forward	
Community Account	1685.46	Community Account	501.78
Less Uncleared Cheques		Less Uncleared Cheques	
100546	-6.47	100558	-113.74
100547	-153.02	100559	-14.81
100548	-407.35	100560	-37.00
100549	-284.00	100549	-284.00
	834.62		52.23
	834.62		52.23
Business Money Manger Account	0.06	Business Money Manager Account	0.06
PayPal Account	72.10	PayPal Account	546.51
TOTAL	906.78	TOTAL	598.80
Excess Expenditure over Income	307.98		
	598.80		598.80

NOTES

1. Unearned balance of five year subscriptions included in above figures is £726.54.
2. Bulletin Postage included with Bulletin cost as part of printing deal.
3. Auction Catalogue cost included with Bulletin cost for the same date.

.....
T.A. Simister Hon. Treasurer

I have examined the foregoing Statement of Accounts and all vouchers relating thereto, including Bank Balances and other balances, and certify that the Accounts are in order and show the position of the Club as at 31st December, 2013.

Signed

..... B. Forshaw Hon. Auditor

FOLLOWING THE AUDIT THIS IS SLIGHTLY AMENDED FROM THE PREVIOUS SET OF ACCOUNTS

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Peter Duck

OLEG PANTUHOFF (RUSSIAN SCOUT FOUNDER) 1882 – 1973.

Scouting in Russia was founded in 1909 by Colonel Oleg I.Pantuhoff at Tsarskoe Selo (Tsar's Village) near St.Petersburg. The town is now called Pushkin after the famous writer. Incidentally, Tsarskoe Selo was the site of the first railway station opened in 1837 as the terminus for the 16 miles line from St.Petersburg. The station was designed as a replica of the pavilions in the Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens in London which existed from the mid 17th to mid 19th centuries. The station was given a Russianised version of the name: VOKSAL, and since then all Russian railways are Voksals. Pantuhoff had been sent a copy of "Scouting for Boys" which was translated, and the first Troop meeting took place on 30th April 1909.

In January 1911 Sir Robert Baden-Powell arrived by train at Tsarskoe Selo to meet Tsar Nicholas II where he learnt about the progress of the Russian Scout Movement.

A series of postcards had been produced in the very early of Russian Scouting by the St.George's Committee. They are undated, and the four I have, which are not posted, show:



Scouts signalling, Scout carrying firewood for an old lady, Scout stalking and Scout saluting with staff. In 1912, a postcard was issued sending greetings to the British Chief Scout on St.George's Day. The cards were produced by a sports company (and possibly Scout supplier) situated at 112 Nevsky spekt in St.Petersburg with a price of 2.50 Roubles.

All cards bear a printed address:

General R.Baden Powell, Chief Scout, 112 Victoria St., London, with a note of the postage price of 1 kopeck. One wonders if B-P ever received any of the cards, and what happened to them?

The first portrait I have of Pantuhoff is from a Scouts` Rally in Crimea where he is addressing the Scouts. This is undated, and presumably is from the pre-1917 period.

Following the Revolution in 1917, all Russian Scouting was banned by the Communist regime. Those Scouts and Leaders who did not escape were imprisoned, or executed.

Pantuhoff managed to escape to Constantinople (now Istanbul) from where, in 1921, he sent a



letter to Sir Robert Baden-Powell using the British Post Office situated in that city.

In 1929, a series of postcards were issued by Russian Scouts in Exile in New York City showing their activities in various parts of the world. Presumably Pantuhoff was now based in New York as one of the cards is signed by him and posted to Greece on 27th January 1930. The first card in the series

shows a stylised Scout with flag showing St. George and the Scout laws (in Russian) on the reverse. In my collection, I have 10 of the cards, but do not know if there were more. The only one which has been posted is the one mentioned above and shows “A group of Russian Boy Scouts near bon-fire at Buckow, Germany. The work of Russian Boy Scouts in Germany was greatly hampered through the influence exercised by the Bolsheviks (July 4, 1922)”. Three of the cards depict Oleg Pantuhoff with other Scout leaders in Constantinople 1920 and 1921, and at Novochoerkask (Russia) 1919. Other scenes include: an original Boy Scout at Tsarskoe Selo in 1915, General Baron Wrangel, Chief of the White Armies, with Scouts 1920, Scouts in Vladivostok 1921, Boy Scouts at the



Russian Cathedral in Nice, France, Bon-fire at Saloniki 1922 and the Inauguration of the Russian Scouts Banner in Finland 1924.

The first philatelic (albeit Cinderella) item depicting Pantuhoff was one label in a sheet of 21 labels issued in Jugoslavia in 1939 to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Russian Scouting. These labels are printed on fawn coloured or blue paper and appear both perforate and imperforate.

Following the terrible disruption of World War II many Russian Scouts, along with other nationalities found themselves in Displaced Persons Camps in Germany. A postcard was produced depicting Pantuhoff, the hand drawn design of which is the same as the 1939 label from Jugoslavia. On the reverse of this card is an imprinted “stamp” showing a Scout with flag. Priced at 5 pf, presumably this was for use within the D.P.Camps.. Once again this portrait was shown in a sheet of 8 labels commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Scouting in 1949.



The next portrait I can record is in a block of three labels issued by Russian Scouts in Exile in New York in 1956. Presumably Oleg Pantuhoff was living in honourable retirement in U.S.A. and in 1969, the 60th Anniversary of Scouting

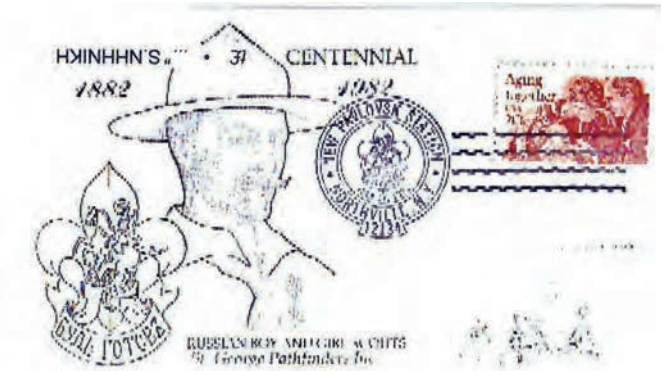
was commemorated by a revised version of the 1956 block of three. In 1972, Oleg Pantuhoff reached the age of 90, and a special sheetlet of four labels was issued in New York. A cacheted first day cover was also produced which only carries the Pantuhoff design “stamp”. A number of printing



errors are recorded, including a multiple-print and misperforated sheetlet.

The following year, Pantuhoff passed away and the sheetlets were overprinted in Russian and with the

dates 1882-1973. Then in 1982, his Centenary was celebrated with a special cover with Russian Scout postmark from New Pavlovsk Station, Northville, NY. This



was the base for Russian Scouts in Exile in U.S.A. A block of four identical labels was also produced at this time, with a propaganda message on the border. These labels were later overprinted for the 80th Anniversary of Russian Scouting in 1989.

Oleg Pantuhoff was finally honoured in his home

country in 1994 when a postal stationery envelope was issued to commemorate the rebirth of Scouting in Russia. This first day cover was posted in Moscow.



In the 1990`s, I received a letter signed Oleg Pantuhoff – the son of the founder of Russian Scouting. He also used the anglicised name of

John Bates and had been an interpreter on General Eisenhower`s staff during World War II. He stated that he had visited a newly-formed Troop of Scouts near St.Petersburg – so the circle had been completed.



1922-2012 90th ANNIVERSARY EDITION KOREA . JAPAN(RYUKYU) SCOUTS STAMPS AND SCOUT CANCELLATIONS.

This 116 page book illustrating all Scout stamps and cancellations from these countries is now available from Kuniichi Komachi, 3-17-11,Haijima-Cho, Akishima-Shi, 196-0002 TOKYO, JAPAN. For US\$20 postpaid worldwide.

This excellent book, which is in Japanese and English is a wonderful reference for all collectors of Scouting postmarks as it gives the full text in English of all the cancellations.

SALES SERVICE LIST

Having organised the Sales Service list in almost every Bulletin since I originally took over as Editor in 1973, I feel it is now time to close it down. During the last two or three years, the number of orders has been dwindling, and having only received two orders from the last Bulletin, I thought the page could be put to better use. Provided, that is, that Terry receives enough material to fill it of course! We are getting very few, if any, new members recently. Certainly, none have contacted me for orders, or anything else. So, one must presume, that the material on offer is already in members` collections.

Any members having wants lists, can always contact me, and I will endeavour to fill their needs. Also, I can send selections of postcards, covers, labels etc on approval. I can be contacted by email, but am not very clever with sending scans!

My “100 List” which was introduced some years ago and is still progressing well as new material arrives. I still have a small number of (satisfied) subscribers. Of course, the Lists can also be sent by email, with paper copies being sent by post. The Lists contain 100 items, plus a few better items, many of which are one-offs from my stock. As each item is sold, another replaces it, and the Lists contain a selection of stamps, mint and used, covers, postcards, labels, other ephemera, and sometimes a few badges. Apart from the few better items, most are priced at under £1.00. Anybody not placing an order from two consecutive Lists will be deleted.

I look forward to receiving a few further requests!

I am currently breaking down 2 large Scout and Guide stamp collections, mainly perforate with some imperf. Mint and a few used stamps, all world postmarks and FDC 1900 to 2013 with strength 1957 to 2013.

Any member with a wants list; if you send me a copy I will return your list with prices and availability.

Bob Lee 57 Church Rise, Chessington, Surrey KT9 2HA, UK

boblee@thematix.co.uk ‘phone 020 8397 2332

A group of unusual postcards came on the market last year whose front side contains pictures of astronauts of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and various officials and/or images related to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Overlaying these images is a small, clear plastic phonographic recording better known as a 'record'. (A definition of a record is a round flat piece of plastic with a hole in the middle on which music and sound are stored.) These postcard records were mailed via regular mail or postal service to the professional staff members of local scout councils. (In America, social welfare and services organizations have a long time tradition of using professional workers to recruited, lead and support volunteers and since the start of BSA, professional scouters have done the same for American scouting. It was the one major difference between the American and British scout organizations. During the period which this article included, approximately 4,000 professionals were employed by the BSA. This does not include office clerical and camp ranger staffs.)

The BSA has been very active and successful using public relations tools to promote the image of their organization. Many old time SOSSI members are familiar with the following promotional programs that were used in the early 1960s:

Jessie Owen endorsement which was used to promote scouting in America's intercity. Jessie, an African-American was well known to adults because of the public impression that Adolf Hitler ignored this winner of four Gold Medals at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games. I believe this promotion was successful with Scouters who remembered Jessie's achievements and felt that black kids should have the opportunity of scouting too.

The **BOYPOWER** theme encouraged local scout councils to provide quality program and services. One of the earliest artifacts of the BOYPOWER program is the topic of this article. This is the plastic laminated postcards, produced in the fall of 1962, featured America's new heroes, the recently chosen Mercury Seven astronauts. Most of which were former Eagle Scout, BSA's highest scout award.

The tie-in of these first NASA's astronauts would be the seeds of another future and still current promotional programs centred on prominent adults who had obtained the Eagle Scout award while a youth. This set of postcards was printed on five by six inches (or 126 X 153mm) cardstock. The picture sides of the postcards have a series of various different images as explained below. On top of the images surface is a clear plastic coating or film which actual is a manual 33 1/3 rpm record or recording, with a message capable of being played on a phonograph. (How successful was this promotional? Not one recording in this group was actually used as the center hole for placing or fastening it on a record player has not been punched through.) (Some of our younger members in this modern age of iTunes may have to read some books to understand what a record was.)

The address side of the postcard is split into two parts, the left portion has the words “THIS CAPSULE RECORD GOOD FOR 200 MISSIONS, Listen to it now, Feature it at meetings, Play it till the words fade. SCOUTING IS ALL O.K. Make it “GO” for members”.

On the right side portion, the cards were addressed for mailing. The name and address was printed on the postcard using the common business practice at the time for mass mailings. That is, the use of Address-O-Graph plates with various names, titles and addresses previously prepared and punched onto metal plates. Also printed on the address side is the product’s name trade name “AURAVISION, a product of Columbia Record Productions”.

These cards were mailed just seventeen months after President John F Kennedy issued his commitment “of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth.” They are an early memento of the space age as well as BSA relationship with it. Shepard became the first American in space on May 5, 1961 while Glen became the first American in orbit around the earth on February 20, 1962. They were part of NASA’s Mercury Seven which was the first of three phases (each of which had several flights) to land a man on the moon.

The cards were mailed from two different locations and our examples will show how two different mailing rooms interpreted their cost and resulted in initially in two different viewpoints. If mailed from New Brunswick, NJ, it has two meter impressions from meter 395613, one for three cents and another for an additional one cent. The other version was mailed from Houston; TX which has one meter impression of four cent value from meter #397753. Houston, headquarters of NASA; while New Brunswick was BSA’s national headquarters at that time (1954 to 1979). The domestic postal rate at the time was four cents for envelopes and three cents for postcards. This oversize postcard would not qualify for the postal card rate due to its size and would require the first class (envelope) rate. (Later, about January 1963, each rate was increased one cent.) Why someone in the mailroom of the national office did not notice the error and change the meter’s postage value setting for the correct rate is beyond me. And then on the other hand, did someone think that a mailing from Houston, Texas would incite an additional interest in this mailing by the recipient? Both meters are classified in the Hawkins & Stambaugh Postage Meter Stamp Catalog as meter style 1A4A.

My lot or group of postcards was directed to one particular local scout council office at 3716 W Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee 8 Wis. *I was unable to obtain the number of professional that the council employed but I suspect maybe eight.*

The group of postcards known to the author is as follows:

Joseph A Brunton, Jr, Chief Scout Executive and Ellsworth H Augustus, President of BSA. The copy seen was sent to Dist Scout Exec Mr John F Hornbrew from New Brunswick NJ, on Oct 30, 1962 See figures 1 and 2

Alan Shepard, Sent to Scout Exec M G Zion from Houston Tex, on Oct 31, 1962

John Glen holding poster of the Explorer Scout emblem, Sent to Asst DSE Elbert W Asinall from Houston Tex, on Nov 7, 1962

Explorer and John Glen, Sent to Charles Smith, Dir of Field Svc from Houston Tex, on Nov 20, 1962

Augustus and Brunton holding astronauts (Project Mercury) picture, Sent to Scout Exec M G Zion from Houston Tex, on Nov 28, 1962

Boy Scout and John Glen holding Boy Scout Handbook (fifth edition 1959-64), Sent to Dist Scout Exec Charles K Hatch from Houston Tex, on Dec 5, 1962 See figure 3 & 4

I believe all professional scouters in the “field”, that is, district and local council staff members, received these postcards/records via the regular mail of the US Post Office Department (USPOD). These were not part of the weekly, bulk mailings to local councils done by the BSA’s national office as they had individual postage. The bulk mailing usually included the weekly newsletter “The Scout Executive” and other new items, booklets, and other information developed by the many different Services/Departments in the national office. The use of direct USPOD mailing was unique. Was it because NASA was willing to pick up the cost to stress the importance of the PR gimmick?

This group of postcards is the first that I have ever seen. Why were they the only ones saved and collected? Could it be because they were considered “junk mail”. Yes even scout professionals considered some mail from the national office as junk. Or could it be because of their odd size for collectors? Or maybe because of philatelists’ dislike of the use of meter franking? Anyway we were lucky that someone saved them for us to enjoy.

Another similar item which this author owns is a card (but not with a postcard appearance) measuring 6 X 8 1/4 inches with a red plastic record promoting the BSA’s 1966 fall roundup which was another recruiting/promotional campaign. The recording has the song, “Follow the Rugged Road” sung by Don Rondo and has some ceremonial material and a second song titled “On My Honor”. Found on the other side of the card is a printed letter to all Scout Unit Leaders encouraging them to use the record to recruiting boy membership and to use consider using it throughout the year. Also written are the words for the Rugged Road song for reproduction and sharing. It is not done as

a postcard, but is the same size as a large (half page) file card. It has the same trademark as the above postcards.

This author remembers the occasionally finding of similar records in magazines during the 1960s. Used as promotionals, they were fastened to magazines similar to the advertising and subscription cards found in many magazines today.

Captions:

Fig 1 the picture side of this postcard featuring recorded messages from both the Chief Scout Executive and the President of the BSA.

Fig 2 the address side of the same postcard showing the two meter impressions from New Brunswick

Cover the picture side of this postcard featuring a Boy Scout and John Glen holding a Boy Scout Handbook.

Fig 3 the address side of the same postcard showing a meter impression from Houston.

Another postcard known to this writer was produced for the New Haven Rail Road which runs thru the cities and towns along the Connecticut coastline into New York City. This postcard/record promoted visits to the Bronx Zoo and of course to buy tickets for the train ride. There also exists a traditional size postcard with Rosemary Clooney and Mitch Miller's Orchestra on an Auravision's 78 rpm recording which promoted the 1956 Ford Thunderbird automobile. Similar recordings, more like baseball cards, can be found among baseball collectibles of the 1960s.

Philately also has similar records; have you ever seen a copy of the colorful Bhutan record stamp set of 1973.

Also seen is an article in the American Philatelic Research Library's *PLR* 2nd Quarter 2012, p138/9 about The STAMP & COIN Collector (of UK?) issue of November, 1965. It reports that the issue included a record in the magazine. The record relates to the Penny Black as well as stamps from Papua and New Guinea. Has anybody have a copy of that magazine? Is the record an Auravision?

I have just obtained an envelope/package titled "Space Science & Exploration Information Kit" with a cachet *Scoutmaster's Program Aids for BSA*. It containing NASA material dated in the fall of 1961. There is no other scout reference in the grouping of mostly government brochures. The package was a handout and not mailed.

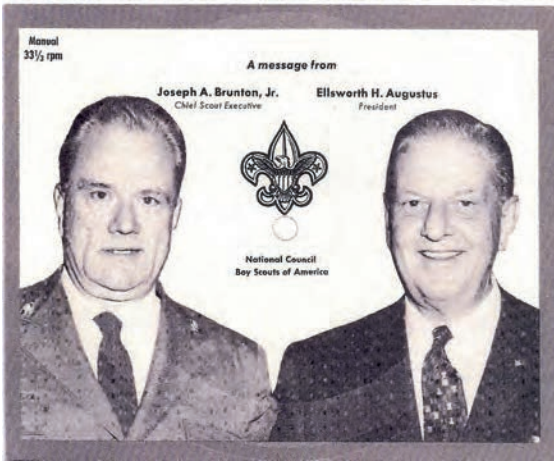


Figure 1

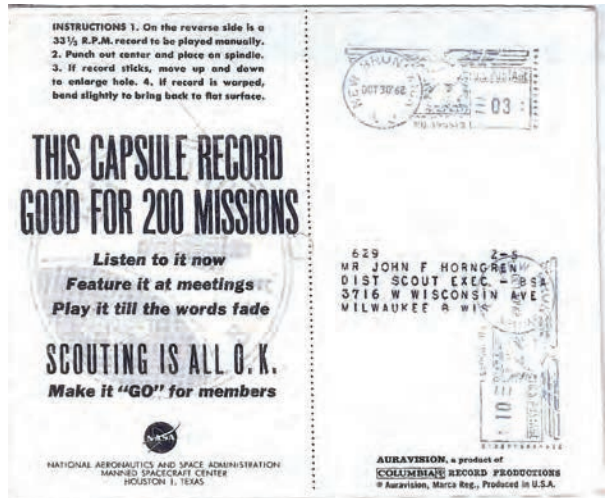


Figure 2

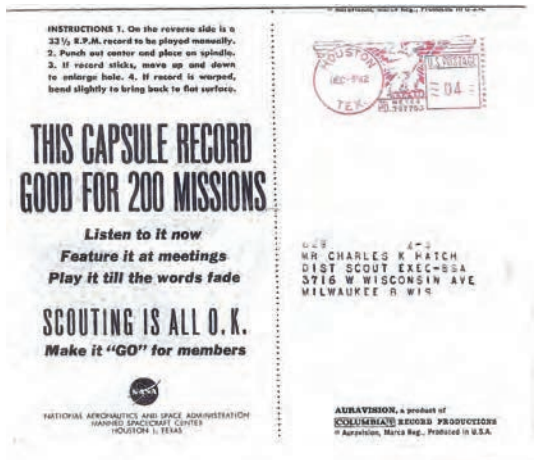


Figure 3

SUBSCRIPTIONS are now due for the new year which started on 1st April and these should be sent to the Membership Secretary. Don't forget that if paying by PayPal there is a small surcharge of 3.5% to cover our costs.

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

%%%%%%%%%

Letter received re Festival of Cards

As the point of contact for your Postcard Club / Specialist Group, we at "Festival of Cards" would be grateful if you could pass on to your members, information about our Huntingdon Show (25th & 26th July 2014), with over 90 top dealers (already registered - more are expected).

Our events are specifically for people with interests in Postcards, Cigarette Cards, Autographs, Stamps and Ephemera.

Even with torrential flooding our February / Shepton Mallet event was later quoted by many as "now being the largest of its kind in the world". The dealer feedback following a post-event survey says it all. You can find the results of the survey on our website (link below)

Our Huntingdon show has been growing year on year and with the success of Shepton and the fantastic feedback we have received , we are planning for it to be larger than ever. Our overseas dealers are also attending which is great news as "new stock" is always of interest to the community.

Huntingdon is ideally placed in the heart of England and with excellent access from all directions. We have provided 3 pages of accommodation on our site, should you need to stop over.

You can find more information, including photos and video of the Shepton Mallet event, at www.festivalofcards.com We are also on Facebook as "Festivalofcardsevents"



The above postcard shows aviation pioneer Claude Grahame-White in flight in a Farnham bi-plane at Hendon in 1911. There were many air shows that year, some certainly with Boy Scouts in attendance. The plane on the ground was also owned by Grahame-White as was Hendon aerodrome, an aircraft factory and a flying school. He was a friend of B-P's brother Baden who was also a pioneer aviator. Grahame-White took B-P's sister Agnes (Chief Guide Commissioner) for a flight, making her one of the earliest British women to have flown. When White married in 1912 and he had an 'Honour Guard' of Boy Scouts, the reception was held in Hylands Park Chelmsford, (home of the 2007 Centennial Jamboree) with many of the guests arriving in their own aeroplanes.



This postcard shows the pioneer aviator Gustav Hamel (in the long coat) with Scouts, in front of Graham White's Bleriot Monoplane. Hamel had a German father but was educated at Westminster School, London. He learnt to fly in Bleriot's Aviation School, in France in 1910 aged 21. His Royal Aero Club Aviators' Certificate (Baden Baden-Powell - B-P's brother, was the club's secretary) was numbered 65. He was then employed at Grahame-White's flying school at Hendon and often flew Grahame-White's planes.

Hamel's first flight of note took place on March 24th 1911 when he flew a Bleriot from Hendon to Brooklands in a record 58 minutes. On the 9th September he delivered the first ever air-mail to the Postmaster General flying from Hendon to Windsor.



A miniature sheet of four stamps celebrating the First UK Aerial Post on Sept. 9th 1911 issued on Sept, 2011. Gustav Hemel is top right.

The postcard showing Hemel on the previous page is not dated and gives no clue as to where the photograph was taken. However, Strachan Duncan a 1909 Scout of 1st St Albans recalled in a book *Always a Scout A history of the 1st St Albans*, published in 1957, that the Troop were invited to camp at Hendon by Grahame-White over the period of the Daily Mail's Round Britain 1010 mile Race from 22nd July to 5th August 1911. This race was organised in conjunction with Baden B-P's Royal Aero Club. Strachan recalled they *helped in any capacity within our capabilities*', which would have included pushing planes into position on the ground. He remembered meeting the event winner Captain Beaumont, Gustav Hamel and of course Grahame-White. It is then very possible that the photograph (on the postcard) was taken at Hendon during this event and that the Scouts were from the 1st St Albans.



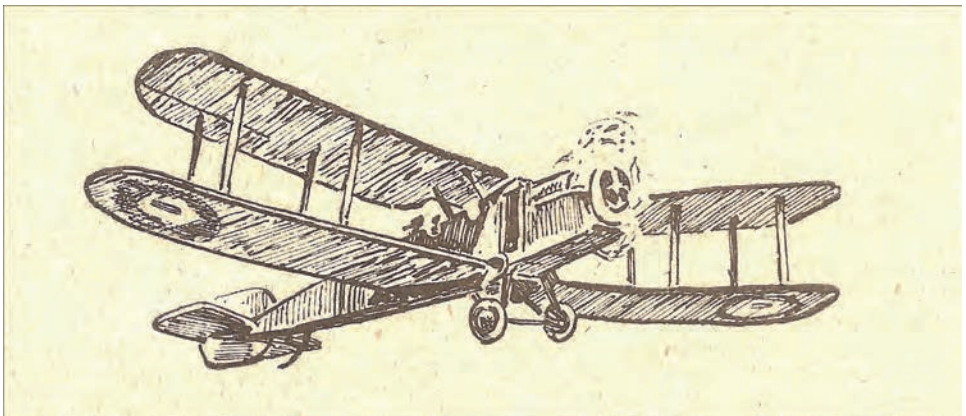
Australia's first airmail flight was not until July 1914 but was the mail also delivered by a Bleriot mono-plane.

On another flight over Windsor on Feb 2nd 1914, Hamel demonstrated a 'loop de loop' watched by King George V and enthusiastic Eton schoolboys. He won many air races and flew a Bleriot from London to Cologne nonstop. This aircraft was named Britannia and was given to the people of New Zealand. It was shipped there in 1913 only to be returned in 1914 for use by the Royal Flying Corps. It is thought to have been shot down in 1915. Hamel disappeared on 24 May 1914 (before WWI began) when flying over the channel.



The very young Scout shown with pilot Harold Blackburn, must surely have been a Troop Mascot? Harold Blackburn was brother of Robert, founder of Blackburn Aircraft Factory at Brough, Yorkshire. The photograph was taken on 'The Stray' Harrogate in 1913. The plane, a Blackburn 1912 monoplane happens to be Britain's oldest powered aircraft. (See photo on back page)

Harold Blackburn also landed his plane on a beach, close to the Filey airstrip where Blackburn aircraft were tested (probably a forced landing). The tide was coming in and threatened to swamp the aircraft. Harold Blackburn enlisted the help of troop of Boy Scouts camped on the cliffs to build a moat round the aircraft, keeping the water at bay long enough for the aircraft to be recovered.



B-P's sketch of a 1916 Bristol F.2B fighter. It accompanied his article, *From Flax to the Aeroplane*, published in the *Headquarters Gazette* of November 1918. The amazing history of the Scouts' War Time Flax Camps is fully documented in my new book *Scouts at War Vol 1, The Great War*, of which there is more elsewhere in this magazine. In 1916 the Royal Flying Corp began to change their previous 'spotter' or reconnaissance role, to more actively bombing enemy positions and shooting down the enemy's aircraft. A much greater number of planes were required, but unfortunately one of the basic raw materials, linen, to cover the wings and fuselage was in very short supply, because of the poor harvest in Northern Ireland and also the increased U-Boat menace in the Irish Sea. The other source of supply was through the Russian Baltic ports which also meant being exposed to the U-Boat menace, but there was also a spot of local difficulty in March 1917 in St Petersburg, triggering the Russian Revolution. The British Government had then no alternative but to encourage British farmers, most of whom had never grown flax, to provide a harvest. The Government inducement was a high rate of pay per acre no matter what the yield; with free seed, free weeding and free harvesting. The last two being especially significant because flax is a very labour intensive crop and there was no reserve of labour to carry out the task, every available adult being employed 'at the Front' or in munitions etc. The labour came from the Scout Movement. In 1918 the flax harvest was brought in by the use of 4500 Scouts which enabled new planes to be built which assisted in the Allies victory. B-P's sketch was published in the *Headquarters Gazette* in 1918 when B-P was reflecting on the role that his Scouts had played in the Great War. The sketch was to show that the final 'destination' of the flax that the Scout's had worked so hard to harvest. To be honest I thought that the sketch was 'generic', representing all of the very similar Great War aircraft. It was though specifically identified by my friend and proof reader Ian Leonard, ex Scout and early aviation enthusiast, as a Bristol F.2B. The sketch is then a testament to the Founder's eye for detail (which I should have known better than to question!)

The postcard on the back page is one of series of three owned by John Ineson, showing the same aircraft. The cards are unused, but one has information pencilled on the back to the effect that the planes had been donated in 1940 by the 'Guides of the Empire' to the RAF). It transpires that *The Guider* magazine set up an appeal to buy an ambulance for the RAF. Guides and Brownies raised £20,000, enough to buy two air-ambulances. The remaining £5000 was used to provide a lifeboat. The air-ambulances were specially adapted Airspeed Oxfords first flown in 1939. The plane illustrated at the bottom of the back cover was flown by 24 Squadron, listed P8833 but later named Nurse Cavell. Regretfully I have been unable to discover any details about the other air-ambulance

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The 1912 Blackburn Monoplane from the Shuttleworth Collection flying at Old Warden, Beds. Image 'davepphotogher'



Photograph from John Ineson's Collection.

