

Scout and Guide Stamps Club BULLETIN



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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: Melvyn Gallagher, 47 Sycamore Avenue, Upminster, Essex.
RM14 2HR (Tel: 01708 224167) e-mail: melvyn Gallagher@hotmail.co.uk

Vice-Chairman & Treasurer: Bernard Tewksbury, 11 Claypits
Road, Boreham, Chelmsford, Essex. CM3 3BZ (Tel: 01245 468835)

Secretary:Graham Osborne3 Camberry Close, Basingstoke, Hants. RG21
3AG (Tel: 01256 328831) camberry@tiscali.co.uk

Membership Secretary:Tim Reed, 10 Falconwood
Close,Fordingbridge, Hampshire. SP6 1TB (Tel: 01425 650961)
tim.p.reed@btinternet.com

Bulletin Editor: Colin Walker, Fern Dell, Valley Road, Darrington,
Pontefract, WF8 3BX (Tel 01977 794147) scouting.milestones@btinternet.com

Committee Members: Randall Frank, Bob Lee, Colin Walker

Web Master:Randall Frank,Box 94807, Phoenix, Arizona AZ85070,
USA.rfrank@sossi.org

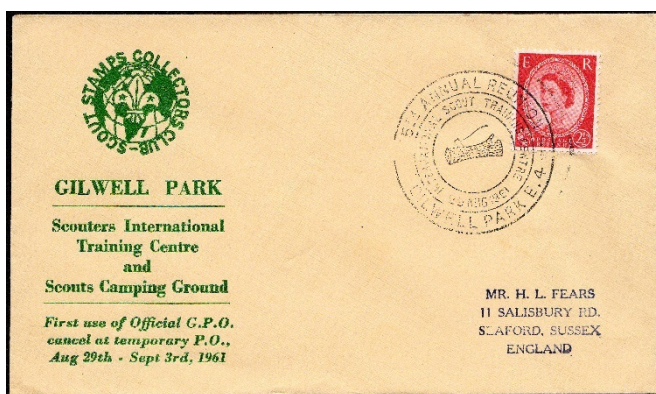
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Cover image. Rare Birmingham WW1 1915 'Patriotic Demonstration' Souvenir
Programme Cover – a recent eBay auction.

Happy New Year! Amongst all the uncertainty that surrounds us as I write, there are one or two things that touch upon our hobby (or is it a life-style?) that are, without doubt, going to happen.

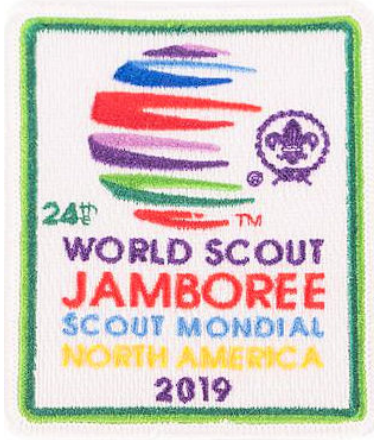
The Scout Association is set to make this year's Gilwell Re-Union as memorable an event as possible to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Gilwell Park as a Scout centre. It was opened on 19th July 1919 by Mrs de Bois Maclaren when she cut a ribbon of her husband's tartan (he had funded the acquisition of the Park). Pieces of that same tartan now adorn every Wood Badge holder's neckerchief. However, I cannot recall any stamps that have any connection with Gilwell? (Please help me out if you can!)



What is absolutely for sure is that there have been many events held a Gilwell, such as the 1952 Indaba, Chief Scouts' visits, Queen Scouts' Receptions, P. L's camps, Father and Sons' camps etc., that have been marked by commemorative covers, often with special postmarks. I wonder if any such philatelic activity is planned for this year? I do hope so, but nothing was done to mark the

Gilwell Park Cover with special postmark for the 1961 Reunion. The cachet states that this was the first use of an official GPO postmark at a temporary P.O. i.e. at the Reunion.

100th anniversary of Rover Scouts- still a vibrant force across the world. Little was done philatelically to mark the last World Jamboree – the Centennial Jamboree, at held at Highlands Park Chelmsford in 2007. Oh yes, the British Post Office did issue a very good set of six stamps on July 26th, 2007, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Scout Movement (which in fact did not formally begin until January 1st, 1908). Unfortunately, these stamps could not be put on a special cover and receive a special postmark at the Jamboree, as it was felt it would not have been a profitable commercial venture! It was left to the Isle of Man Post Office, which did have a base at the Jamboree, to prove them wrong.



The other great Scouting happening this year is of course the 24th World Scout Jamboree to be held in West Virginia, America, starting on July 22nd. Surely the World Jamboree will be the cause of many Scout issues across the world and hopefully the American issue will not be as controversial as that in 2010 for the centennial of the Boy Scouts of America. Although it carried the word ‘Scouting’ it was felt that this was is not specific to the BSA, the initials of which at least had been used on previously used on previous US Scout issues) neither was there any representation of the BSA Fleur de Lys based logo.

The stamp depicts images of young of two young men who do not appear to be dressed in Scout Uniform. Many Scouts were disappointed claiming that this issue could said to commemorate ‘the great outdoors’ rather than the BSA.



Whatever the philatelic ‘output’ of the above two milestone events, may this year mark an increase in your collection and your desire to use it to promote our great Scouting Heritage.

Advance notice has been given of the next World Scout Moot (formerly Rover Moots) which is to be held in Ireland July 19th -28th. 2021. The ‘base camp’ will at Larch Hill, Dublin but participants will be expected to participate in one or more ‘trails’ exploring ‘the many wonders of Ireland’.



The image to the left is one of three very similar ‘official logos’. The other image is being used on Facebook to ‘head up’ the Moot’s page. It would, in my opinion, make an excellent stamp?

Chairman's Notes

Melvyn Gallagher

On behalf of your Committee I wish all members a happy and prosperous 2019! There were very few bona-fide Scout issues during 2018 but with the World Scout Jamboree being held in the USA this summer there will no doubt be a deluge of related stamps, covers, postmarks, postcards and other printed ephemera. Many of the stamps will be available from Bob Lee in due course.

I see that the Scout Association is hoping to raise £8.5 million for a Scout Heritage Centre development at Gilwell Park. This is the most ambitious of previous similar schemes that have founded due to lack of funding. (One such was scheduled to be built in readiness for the World Centennial Jamboree in 2007). The archive collection is, as could be expected, the best in the world and contains some philatelic material. Archives however are not designed to allow public access and although some treasures have been displayed in the White House from time to time we have, despite our 112 year history, never yet had a Scout Association 'fit for purpose' Scouting museum.



Editor's note. Three years ago, the SA promoted a competition encouraging architects to submit designs for a heritage centre. There were three or four submissions and the image opposite is from the winning entry. The architects Tate Harmer's concept is basically to stretch a huge tent like canopy over Camp Square enabling a very large number of visitors to congregate and could also easily house both Jam Roll and the Eccles caravan

Part of the canopy's circumference would be edged by buildings containing the new Heritage Centre, education rooms and café. The central feature is a tower which would allow visitors to enjoy views across the park and out to Central London.

Let us hope that with positive practical support from all in the Movement the Lottery commission and other grant givers will be moved to back this long-awaited project.

Meanwhile a few (too few) Scout Counties are actively seeking to preserve our Scout Heritage, notable Hertfordshire, Hampshire and West Yorkshire, but we do have a most excellent example of 'volunteer power' in the Waddecar Story of Scout and Guiding, run by Michael Looms in Lancashire. If you have never visited – there is only one thing to say, you should!

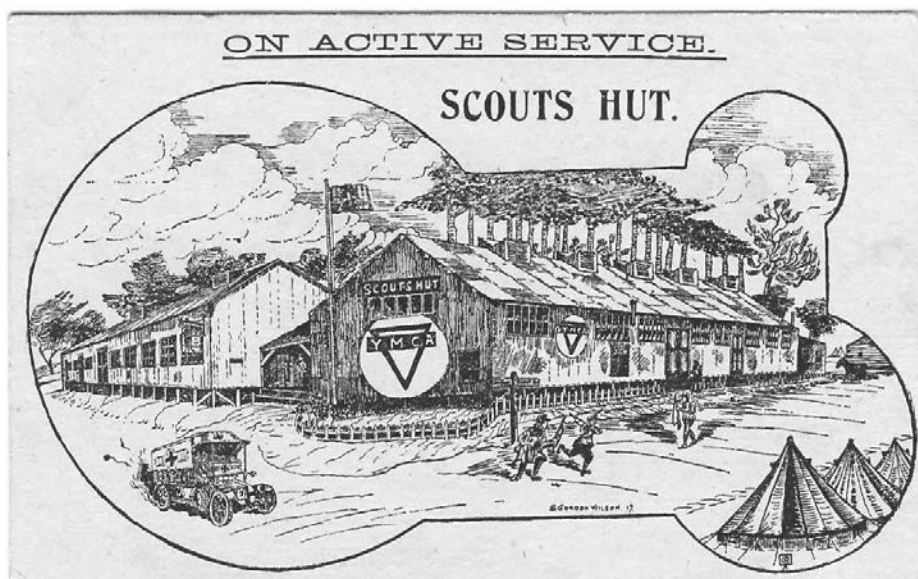
Notes from the President

Peter Duck

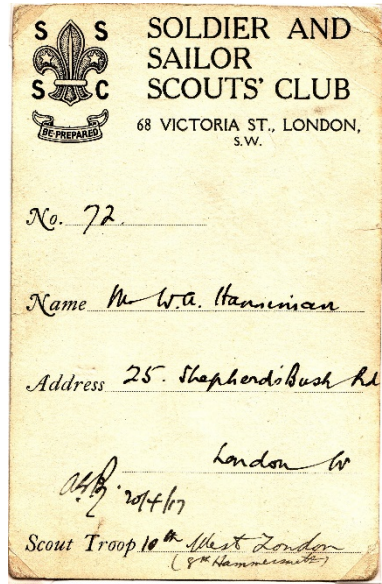
As I write this, we have just commemorated the centenary of the Armistice at the end of The Great War, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month 1918. This prompted me to look through my collection from this period.

During the classic period of postcards in the first years of the twentieth century, the cards ranged from patriotic to comic. Many of them have not been sent, others were posted within the United Kingdom, sometimes for Birthday greetings.

Two which were posted 'On Active Service' in 1915 and bearing 'Passed by Censor' handstamps are designs by Fred Spurgin, with translated texts presumably by Paul Heckscher, Paris, whose name is printed on the reverse. Both carry cheerful messages, one to Master R.G. Morris from 'Daddy', the other to Miss E. Dyson from Sam.



The SCOUTS' HUT card was sent from Uncle George to Master Alex Goddiffe, but had presumably been enclosed in an envelope, as there are no postal or censor markings. It shows the Scouts' Hut at Etaples France, one of several provided by B-P's fundraising after his visit to the Front Line in 1915. It was part of the YMCA scheme, but Scouts Huts were staffed by Scouts too old or otherwise exempt from National Service (including B-P & Olave) and flew the Scout Flag. Note the Ambulance in the foreground also Scout funded.



Editor's Note. A similar card to that above illustrated in my Collectables Series books, allowed Chris Hollingham to identify his very rare Soldiers & Sailors Scout's Club Thanks Badge. The card is in fact the SSSG club membership card. It was initiated by B-P to assist Scouts serving in the armed forces passing through London.



Another "Passed by Censor" item from 1915 is an envelope to Patrol Leader C.M. Bonner of Buckingham which also carries a British Red Cross handstamp.

Two Scout postcards from France had been sent home by British soldiers. The card with three Scouts "sans peur" (without fear) was sent by Uncle Len to Elsie in Streatham, London S.W. with Army Post Office postmark 25 Mar 16 and 'Passed Field Censor' handstamp. The Eclaireurs Unionistes de France (one of the three officially recognised French Scout Organisations of the day) card was sent to Jesse from Ted "one of the boys somewhere in France".

Although the Holland was not involved in the War, some British troops were interned there. I have a postcard from the YMCA with British Prisoners of War, post free from Scheveningen in January 1918, addressed to Mr. H.E. Drew (B.P. Scouts). The sender, P. Aylward, says that he has made himself acquainted with the local Scouts.



On the German side, the Boy Scouts (Deutscher Pfadfinderbund) performed official postal services in occupied Brussels, Antwerp, Namure and Lüttich. Various handstamps and

'stamps' were used for this service. I only know of one postcard however showing the Scout 'postmen' (see previous image) photographed in Brussels 1916. The Pfadfinder Bund involvement in postal system was led by Maximilian Bayern, its first 'Fieldmeister' – equivalent to Chief Scout.



German Scouts involved in this form of war service wore buttonhole badges as above with the same chess-board design as the 'stamps'. Slightly different badges were provided for different ranks within the organisation

One card from this period which has always amused me was a posted in Austria to Germany, bearing a "Scoutpost" label. On the card is printed "Gott Strafe England", (God punish England)!

The wartime postcard opposite shows British Scouts from the Panther Patrol ready for action.

John's Jottings

John Ineson

I have often written about an unusual or scarce Scout items coming up for sale worldwide. Since last July, Cherrystone Auctions of New York have been selling over four auctions some of the most difficult Scout items to find. Maybe some of our members have seen details about these in other magazines, but I would like to record some of the superb items sold. The buyer's premium was 15% above the prices shown, and the exchange rate was \$1.28 to the £.

AUSTRIA Lot #118

\$850 Est £500



1962 Boy Scout Issue, imperforate horizontal pair, very fine mint unmounted (MNH). Only one sheet of 50 stamps was thought to have been sold imperforate. Issued to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Scouting in Austria, the stamps show the left handshake.

BELGIUM Lot #136

\$1000 Est \$1000



1957 Boy Scout Issue, set of two imperforate blocks of four, very fine mint unmounted (MNH). Two hundred sets of imperforate stamps were presented to high Government Officials, with each stamp being numbered on the reverse.

CUBA Lot #244

\$230 Est \$150



1953 Boy Scouts, 4c green, imperf. plate proof in issued colour for the National Patrol Leaders camp & the 40th anniversary of Scouting in Cuba. In 1959 Scouting was banned after the Cuban Revolution and today it is one of only four countries worldwide not to have Scouting. The

others are China (excluding Hong Kong), Laos and North Korea.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA Lot #255

\$2300 Est \$1,000



1918 A mint strip of three of the blue 10h and a single red 20h stamp which should have been die cut individually, but not enough pressure was applied, so the stamps could not be removed from the paper.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA Lot #259

\$3,250 Est \$2,500



1918 This pair of Scout Stamps have been overprinted "Prijezd Presidenta Masaryka" – Arrival of President Masaryk and were only used on 21 December 1918. A total of 600 of the 10h and 1000 of the 20h were overprinted. Many fakes exist of this issue and sometimes the wrong colour overprint has been used

EGYPT Lot #279 **\$859 Est. 250**



1962 Egyptian Girl Scouts, imperforate horizontal pair, mint unmounted (MNH). I do not know much about these stamps and have only seen them offered once before by G. Alevizos in March 1995 at

\$600-750 for a vertical pair. As they sold so well in this Cherrystone auction, I guess that there was only one sheet imperforate.

EGYPT Lot #284

\$10,000 Est \$2,500



1956 2nd Pan-Arab Jamboree, set of three perforated essays (colours and designs slightly different from the issued stamps), mounted on card, with official inscriptions and signatures, very fine and probably unique. This is a great item and one that I had never previously encountered.

GREAT BRITAIN Lot #463

\$1,400 Est **\$500**



1957 Jubilee Jamboree. A set of three coil leaders each with four stamps with original wrapping. (For a full description the Jubilee Jamboree 'Coils' please see p. 18).

GREAT BRITAIN Lot #463 **\$2,700** Est **\$2.50**

1957 Jubilee Jamboree, set of three imperforate sheet margin singles, each hand-stamped "imprimatur" on the back mint unmounted (MNH) A rare set of imprimaturs, only 10 reported (SG 557-59var)



It was decided that over a ten-year period, surplus imperforate stamps from the Post Office Archives should be sold to raise money for the British Philatelic Trust and the National Postal Museum. The first sale, which did not include commemorative stamps, was held by Christie Robison Lowe in July 1984, followed in February 1985 when a block of four and marginal singles

were sold. The second sale was held by Philips in September 1985 when a second block of four was sold. This turned out to be the last sale, as it was found out that the curator of the National Postal Museum had been selling stamp for his own benefit, for which, he was jailed for two years.(For more Scout stamp 'skulduggery' see p. 18).

INDIA Lot #561

\$2,100 Est **\$1000**

1937 Feb 1-7 All-India Scouts Jamboree Rocket Mail, three different imperforate tete-beche sheetlets of four (dark blue, light green and magenta), each numbered, signed and dated by Stephen J. Smith very fine only 25 of each produced. Altogether 2000 of each colour labels were produced, it is not known if they were all printed in sheetlets of four or in larger numbers. Some years ago, some forgeries appeared on the market in sheets of nine of each colour. These may have been produced in India



INDIA Lot #567

\$1500, Est \$500



This was described in the catalogue as 1937 Feb 1-7 All-India Scouts Jamboree Rocket Mail, when seven rockets were fired from the Jamboree site carrying postcards, covers and other ephemera. This cover was sent by rocket on the 2nd March from the Bengal Girl Guides Rally. Two rockets were fired on that day consisting of 30 covers on No. 7, fired by Lady Baden-Powell and No.8 fired by Lady Dorothy

Arthur, the provincial Guide Commissioner. A single line cachet was applied to both covers with the word 'Propaganda' spelt incorrectly.

NEW ZEALAND Lot #685

\$950 Est \$1,000



1966 Boy Scout Jamboree, 4d green, gold colour omitted, bottom sheet margin single, very fine mint unmounted (MNH). I have never added this stamp to my collection as it is fairly well known that it is possible to remove the gold print. I heard of similar stamps that have been sent to the Royal Philatelic Society Expert committee, which came back as 'fake', Stanley Gibbons however do list it as SG 838a.

HUNGARY Lot #859

\$525 Est. \$500

1939 Girl Guide Jamboree at Gödöllő, imperforate blocks of four, mint un-mounted (MNH). Although imperforate stamps of the Hungarian Boy Scout 1933 World Jamboree set appear for sale quite often, to find blocks of four of the 1939 Girl Guide set is very difficult. Odd stamps or pairs do appear on the market, but until this sale, I had not seen them offered before



British Scout Poster Stamps, Seals and Stickers

Part I 1892 –1910?

Scout Historian Colin Walker

It is very unwise for any collector to claim that he/she has “got them all”, even when being guided by printed sources that advertise themselves as ‘complete listings’. Somebody, somewhere, will have a colour variation, a ‘flaw’ or an example that nobody else has ever seen before. So, I am not making any claim to this being a complete listing, particularly because the items described belong to a very vague category, unloved by most philatelists, known as ‘Cinderellas’. These ‘off beat’ items have committed the cardinal sin of not being ‘proper’ postage stamps, that is they were not issued by any official Post Office and would not have been accepted as a means payment for a postal service and so do not appear in published Stamp Catalogues.

Their purpose often was to act as means of advertising and/or fund raising, so it is easy to understand why they were used in a Scouting context, advertising a wide range of Scouting ‘happenings’ and often contributing to some official fundraising. Occasionally they can be found adorning on a Scouting First Day Cover or the like, helping to make more it colourful and providing a little more information about the event

Each item, set or part set, will be illustrated. I would be interested to learn of any issues not documented and see scans of examples ‘on cover’ that were actually carried through the post, particularly as the postmark helps date the duration of issue, most of which are not known. The last part of the catalogue will contain a ‘tick list’ of all known issues.

The first ever a poster stamp was produced in 1864 when one was issued to commemorate the 300th anniversary of Shakespeare’s birth. You might expect that a Scouting collection would begin with examples dating from the official start of the Movement in 1908, however as we include Baden-Powell items from his army career in most other forms of Scout collecting, we must go back to 1892 to find the first Scout related poster stamp.

1892? Private Issue? Perforated. Major Baden-Powell



The actual sized scanned images are of the only known examples. The poster stamps are displayed a sheet of paper to which they were probably affixed by B-P’s mother, Henrietta who wrote a caption, ‘Major Baden-Powell 13th Hussars 1892’. The items were sold at auction in August 1975 for £22 by Richardson’s whose catalogue stated that the sheet also had the pencil note; ‘These were printed by W.O (War Office) and distributed by Mrs B-P’,

(his mother). It would seem that the item was purchased by our deceased member Keith Burtonshaw and after his death, sold to John Ineson.

These poster stamps pose a number of questions. Why would the War Office be interested in singling out B-P appear on poster stamp? He, after all, was just one of many very Junior officers. At this point in his career (1892) B-P, aged 36 years old, had been in the army for 16 years and though he had had some interesting military experiences had done nothing particularly significant to deserve this honour. Perhaps other officers also appeared on poster stamps, or that by War Office approval, officers could pay to have the stamps produced? It seems very strange that in spite the involvement of B-P's mother, that this pair illustrated are the only known copies.

1913, Series 535. 536 Made in Germany, sold in England and Germany



The three poster stamps illustrated are numbered 1., 2., & 4. from set 536. sold with German and English captions. Set 525 also contained six similar images also derived from coloured scraps made in Germany and sold in Great Britain. Girl Scouts were officially encouraged in Britain in 1908/9 and Sea Scouts were active in 1910. *Sea Scouting and*

Seamanship for Boys written by Warrington Baden-Powell was published in July 1912.

The poster stamps are quite large, 4.7x7cms. The scraps were made in three different sizes (see my *Scouting Collectables book, Vol 2.*)

Congratulations to our member and Webmaster Randall Frank elected as a fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London!

Randall was elected as a Fellow of the 'Royal', the oldest Philatelic Society in the world in November 2108. The Society's Council may, at its discretion, from time to time elect certain members as Fellows of the Society. Fellowship may be given after a member's service to the Society, contribution to philately in general or publication of article(s) in the *London Philatelist*.



For sure Randall has received this rare accolade for outstanding and lasting service to Scout philately in general and in particular to the Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI)

From Left right; Peter Ford, prominent member of the International Badgers Club and Heritage Research Officer, Scout Association S.A. Gilwell, and our members Randall Franks, Hallvard Slettebø and Bob Lee at the 'Royal' on the occasion of Hallvard's recent exhibition.

Editor's Note



The Royal Philatelic Society was formed in 1869 and is celebrating its 150 anniversary this year. Randall's rare honour is shared (to our knowledge) by at least three other members of our club. Our former President John Ineson, Hallvard Slettebø from Norway and Frederick Lawrence, America. (If you are aware of others in the club who have also achieved this distinction please let me know). Currently our club has less than 100 members, to have four fellows of the RPSL is very rare disinclination.

New Issues

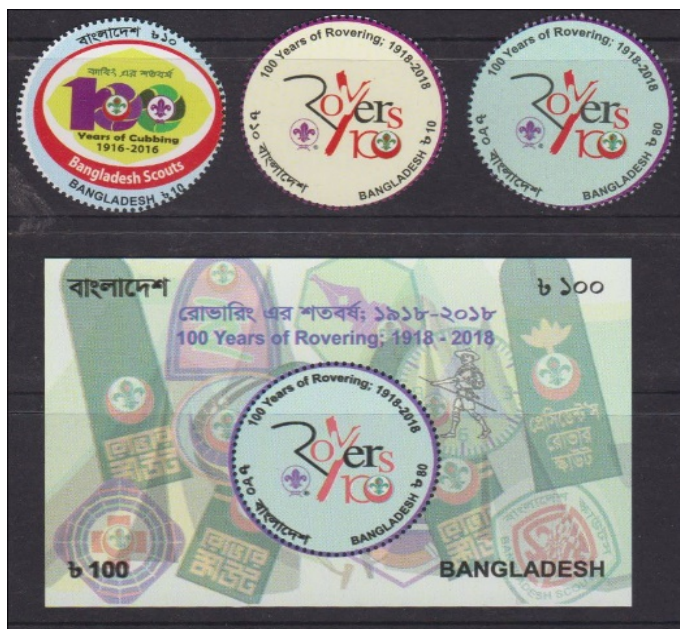
from information supplied by Bob Lee

Bangladesh. In 2015 Bangladesh had over 1.5 million Scouts including the Cub and Rover Scout Sections but with government support this number has grown considerably.



2017. The stamp opposite was single stamp issue commemorating the 11th National Rover Moot held at Tungipara Gopalganj 25-31 January 2017.

Right. 2018 6th National Comdeca (Community Development Camp) held at Charvanga Chandpur.



The international event was attended by Rovers and Scouters between 18-26. Pakistan's Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina opened the event and said that her government was going to introduce Cub Scouting into every primary school and that Scouting should be strengthened in all academic institutions.

She also announced that Bangladesh had earned a Growth Award from the World Scout Council.

The circular stamp (top left) was issued in 1916 left to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Cub Scouting following the UK Scout Association's decision to promote 100 years of Cub Scouting in that year. (The Wolf Cub Section in fact started in 1914.) The other two circular stamps were issued in 2018 to celebrate 100 Years of Rover Scouting. So, we have an answer to the question posed in the last issue, yes there were stamps to celebrate this significant event.

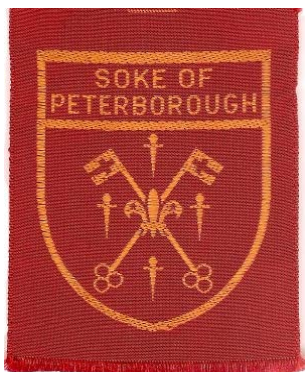
1957 Jubilee Jamboree 'Official' First Day Covers



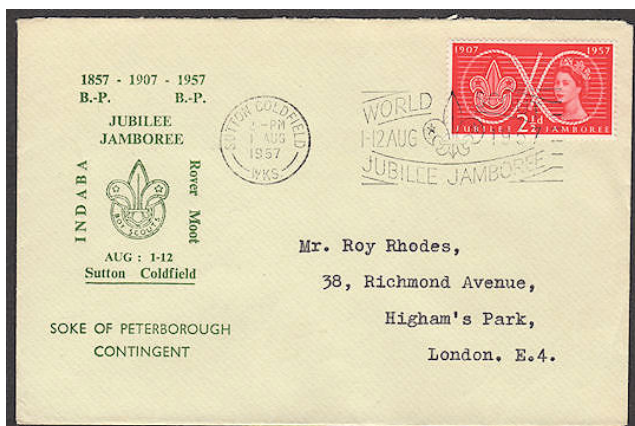
A tale of 'skulduggery'

by Scout Historian Colin Walker

Prompted by a New Year's Resolution I have started to 'tidy up' my collection of 1957 World Jamboree items. These treasures have lain unordered but in a growing file started in 1957 when I attended the event, for the day, as a young Scout visiting with my Scout Troop. We were camping at the time near at Dovedale, Derbyshire, and travelled by bus to the Jamboree. Of course, every Scout should visit a World Jamboree at some stage, but part of the motivation was that my Troop, Deacon's School, 10th Soke of Peterborough, had six Senior Scouts who were part of the official SOP contingent to the World Jamb. As a young philatelist I had pre-ordered one of the official FDCs, and at the Jamboree engaged in much swapping on a three to one basis of my comparatively rare SOP county badges for any other badge! I spent part of my 'pocket money' on buying a booklet of Jamboree Poster Stamps which, in terms of financial investment, was the worst possible purchase, as it can still found very cheaply today.



The SoP County
Badge at the time of
the JIM, worth three
if any other?



The rare SoP FDC which I was fortunate to obtain 60 years after my visit to the SoP Jamboree Contingent in 1957. It was not however an 'official' cover on sale to the general public.



My collection contains a 'flyer' from the Mayflower Stamp Company. London promoting their three 'Official' first day covers. I had bought one of these by mail order at the time and collected the other two in the intervening years.



As the leaflet shows, the covers had different cachets depicting different aspects of the event. The



The cachet for the 'Jubilee Jamboree' shows a Scout raising his 'Wide Awake' hat. The other two having cachets for the 'Jubilee Indaba Camp' (the word 'Indaba' was adopted by B-P to mean a meeting of Scouters, (its original South African tribal meeting meaning a meeting of Chieftain's), and the 'Jubilee Rover Moot'. The three covers together commemorating the 'JIM' (Jamboree Indaba and Moot). So far so good then, but I found I had in my collection a fourth cover, (see next page), in the same style, that depicted Brownsea Island which also identified itself as being an 'Official First Day Cover'.



The Mayflower Stamp Company flyer said that they had been appointed as the 'Sole World Distributing Agents' and that the covers were 'Official' FDCs, which 'The Boy Scouts Assoc. had prepared'.

The leaflet explained that, 'The sale of these covers is of Direct Benefit to the Boy Scout Association, so this fourth official cover must have also come from the 'Sole Distributing Agents', but why was it not advertised on the Mayflower flyer?



This problem (as many of my queries are) was solved by consulting our Vice President John Ineson, who was a participating Scout Leader at the Jamboree. He also had a flyer from the same Mayflower Stamp Company but with a New York address. This flyer also depicted three 'Official' FDCs. Though the 'Jubilee Jamboree' and the 'Jubilee Indaba Camp' cover illustrations were the same, the 'Rover Moot' cover had been deleted in favour of a Brownsea Island cover? Why so? The answer struck John first. The Boy Scouts of America did not have an official Rover Section then but they, of course, knew all about Brownsea Island!

I then consulted our President Peter Duck who also attended the Jamboree as a Scout Leader and, though he did not collect stamps at the time, he subsequently amassed a large collection of Jubilee Jamboree FDCs and was to shed further light on the substitution of the Brownsea Cover. Quite bizarrely it appears that the 'new' Brownsea cover was made the 'old' Rover Cover as can be proved by looking at the printed insides of the envelope. Recycling it would appear is not that modern a phenomenon.

I do not have any figures to prove it, but it would seem likely that the Brownsea Island FDC Cover sold to Americans is rarer than the other three? If this is so, it is not reflected in its current 'retail' price.

As interesting as the substitution Brownsea cover for the Rover Moot cover is, it hardly amounts to 'skulduggery', but read on. The excerpt below is self-explanatory. It formed a short article in SGSC bulletin in 1961 and was written by Wilf Nodder, the then Editor of this magazine.

'A rose by any other name smells.....'

The conviction last September of Cecil Rose, a stamp dealer, to a prison sentence of six years for fraudulent trading and other offences under the Bankruptcy Act, recalls to my mind the 1957 World Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield.

He it was who formed the Mayflower Stamp Co. Ltd to exploit the sale throughout the world of the special G.B. stamp issue for the Jamboree: he it was who promised the Boy Scouts' Association the sum of £50,000 for the privilege of being the sole agent for the servicing 'official' First Day Covers.

In his summing up and passing sentence, the Judge said, "..., you did not hesitate to use the fair name of the Boy Scouts Association to further your frauds".

It is common knowledge that Imperial Scout Headquarters finished very much 'in the red' over this Jamboree; had this person kept his promise, the deficit would have been greatly reduced, for at the trial it was stated that the B.S.A. had received only £700. For once, Comment fails me!

Mr Rose's massive investment (if he ever intended to pay for it) was a wild overestimate of the actual demand there would be for 'his' covers. Regrettably comparatively few Scouts were sufficiently keen on Scouting philately to actually purchase a FDC, only 60,632 covers were sold worldwide, which at six shillings each were very expensive considering that the value of stamps on each cover only amounted to 1 shilling and nine pence halfpenny (more than three times the cost of stamps attached to them), most boys of my age were lucky to have more than a shilling a week 'pocket money', if they had pocket money at all! Scouts at Jamborees have very limited budgets- most souvenirs are swapped!

The Post Master General, when announcing the dominations for the three Jamboree stamps, in March 1957, stated that the Post Office was for the first time going provide a first day cover service for which they would charge dealers 2 shillings per cover.

The minimum quantity of covers that the Post Office would accept for servicing was sixty so obviously most customers were stamp dealers including Mr Rose. The Post Office thought that they were set to make a considerable sum of money out of issue particularly as the two higher value stamps the 1/3d and the 4d issue were actually surplus to the legal requirement for normal mail delivery in this country and represented almost pure profit to the Post Office who, in effect, had only to pay for the cost of their printing.. (It was thought 2 million covers would require processing!)

This volume of covers, it was thought, would be too time consuming/expensive to service by hand, so a mechanised solution for sticking the stamps on the covers was sought. The problem was solved by the purchase of two machines from the Harwich firm of Vacumatic Ltd, which could affix the three stamps to covers at a rate of 120 a minute. The machine required the stamps to be in roll form (coils) which were specially printed in 4800 stamp rolls. In total more than 2,250,00 sets of stamps were printed in coil form.



The Jubilee Jamboree stamps were the first UK commemoratives ever to have had been attached to a cover by a machine and trials were undertaken to see that process was fool-proof. The design for 'Special Testing Stamps' – the so-called 'fried eggs' which had been innovated to test the normal GPO stamp machines were again deployed, however as the Jamboree commemoratives were twice the width of the normal definitive issue, two 'fried eggs' were required for the double width commemoratives .It will be seen from the examples opposites there is no perforation line between the 'fried eggs'.

The machines worked well. The coils of stamps were fed into it using brown paper 'leaders'. Unfortunately, the expected demand did not materialise, and only 14 of the coils for each value were used, so the Post Office was left with the greater part of its stock. The coils (very hard to display in a collection) were reduced to 480 stamps for the two lower values, and 240 for the 1/3 value and put on sale to dealers. Only 49 coils with leaders were sold of the 2½d stamp, 21 of the 4d stamp and only 20 of the 1/3d stamp, which means that there can only be 20 sets of the all three stamps with leaders. One of the sets is known to be within the club, another was auctioned recently (see p.12). Without the brown paper header, a strip would need to be at least 21stamps long to prove that it was indeed from a coil and not just taken from a normal sheet. They were withdrawn from sale on September 11th, 1957.



The cut down coils with leaders priced to sell to dealers.

Unlike the Scout Association's sale of covers, it seems unlikely that the Post Office would have made a loss over the Jamboree issues as their major expenses would have only been to provide the prizes for three winners who provided the three designs, the cost of the machines and their operators, and the printing of the stamps. Clearly however they did not make anywhere near the profit they expected. (Is this reason why there was not UK Post Office involvement in the 2007 Centennial Jamboree?)

The title of this article includes the word 'skulduggery' which I feel is appropriate to describe Mr Rose's activities. I wonder what word I would have used when aged twelve I received my 'official' pre-ordered Jamboree first day cover with its the wonderful iconic Jamboree cancellation showing the fleur de lys, if I had realised that in fact it never been to the Jamboree! The stamping machines were housed in a depot at Sutton Park Station (now closed) outside the limits of Sutton Park where the Jamboree was held. The fixed date/time postmarks were also applied in this temporary location.

Interestingly, only one year after his misdeeds, but before his prosecution, Cecil Rose wrote (or rather dictated) the text for a book called *Ten Under Cat- Reminiscences of a Stamp Dealer*, published by Castle and Co. Needless to say, he did not have anything to say about his defrauding of the Scout Association who, partly as a result of his activities, made a substantial loss on the World Jamboree that had, in effect, to be borne by every member of the UK Scout Association!

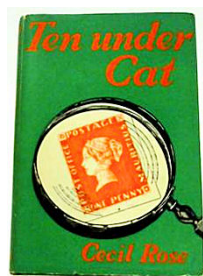
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The 1957 GB Scout Jamboree in Rolls. R J Myers, Stamp Collecting. Dec. 1967

The Postal Arrangements at the World Scout Jubilee Jamboree. British Postmark Society Monograph 1/10/59

Ten Under Cat, Cecil Rose, Cassell, 1958



John Ineson Appeal

For some reason, I did not receive the Spring 2018 Bulletin (Terry Simister's last issue) and it seems that no spare copies were printed. I have all other issues and have had them bound for posterity. (These may be the only full set of bound volumes in existence?) It is very disappointing then that I now have a missing issue and wonder if any members could help me out? Please email first at jpineson@aol.com. I am happy to pay the cost of postage.

Tailpiece

Your editor is very pleased to have received many congratulatory comments on the last issue of the Bulletin which was the first under his editorship. I am very happy to take on this role, but it is **your** magazine! Our remit now is to cover a wide range of Scouting Ephemera not just stamps. Your contributions are not only welcome but **essential**, articles, comments, or even just images of recent purchases etc. will all help to sustain our future, as it is very apparent that for most members, the magazine is their only contact with the club, so, no magazine = no club?

The next issue is June 1st. Deadline for copy is May 15th.