

THE JOURNAL OF THE SCOUT STAMP COLLECTORS' CLUB

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EDITORIAL

The Jubilee Jamboree is now just a memory, but what a happy one it is for those who were able to be there, renewing old friendships, making new, swopping this, swopping that - even complete uniforms changed hands! Which reminds me, for besides containing notes on the special cancellations used in this country prior to and during J.I.M., this Journal contains an important notice which, I'm certain, will interest you, so turn out that want list, dig out your duplicates and send in your "Ad." as early as possible, please.

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PRE JAMBOREE SLOGAN CANCELLATION

(These notes, together with those on the Jubilee Jamboree cancellations were written especially for the Journal by our Secretary.)

As most of you have been aware, a special slogan cancellation was employed in certain post offices in London and several other centres for the period July 1st. to 31st., inclusive. The slogan part included the words "WORLD SCOUT JUBILEE JAMBOREE, SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE 1 - 12 AUG. 1957", and the Scout badge. To date, the President and I have been able to compile the following list of places at which the cancellation was used, but we should be glad to hear from any member who can add further useful information to the list.

BELFAST (C)	GLASGOW (A)(B)(C)	LONDON F. S. M.
BIRKENHEAD CHES.	HUDDERSFIELD, YORKS	LUTON
BIRMINGHAM (A)(B)(C)(E)	HULL, YORKS	MANCHESTER (K)(L)(P)
BLACKBURN, LANCS (B)	LEEDS (A)(B)	MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKS
BOLTON, LANCS (B)	LEICESTER (A)(B)	NEWCASTLE-ON TYNE (A)
BOURNEMOUTH-POOLE(A)	LIVERPOOL (A)(B)	NORTHAMPTON No.1
BRADFORD YORKS	LONDON W.1(D)(E)(F)	NOTTINGHAM (A)(B)
BRISTOL (B)(C)	LONDON S.W.1(A)(B)	SHEFFIELD (A)(C)
CARDIFF (A)	LONDON W.C.(B)(D)(E)	STOCKPORT CHES. (A)
DERBY (A)	LONDON E.C. (D)(E)	STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFS.
DUNDEE, ANGUS	LONDON-A-73	WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFS.
EDINBURGH (A)(B)	LONDON-B-73	

Although the official concluding" date was July 31st., I have a specimen in my possession from BELFAST (C), dated August 1st. It does not appear that the cancellation was in use at Sutton

Coldfield.

(I can add one name to the list, namely, COVENTRY, WARWICKSHIRE (A). In "Stamp Collecting" dated September 6th., it was reported that this slogan cancellation was used on a letter bearing a 2½d. Jamboree stamp at one of the Edinburgh offices, on August 1st. as late as 2.30 p.m.

For those unfamiliar with British cancellations, I think it should be pointed out that this pre Jamboree mark is an example from one of the standard cancelling machines in use at the larger offices throughout the country, the slogan portion - or die - of which, being removable as a unit, may be changed as required; the town portion usually remains in use for a considerable period until damaged or unfit for use. In the above list, each letter, in parentheses, after the town name, appears at the base of the town cancellation. Thus, for example, Glasgow had three separate machines - designated by the letters A, B, C, at base - using this slogan die to cancel mail. It seems obvious that the postal authorities obtained a number of identical slogan dies which were probably reproduced from a "master" die. Editor.)

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JUBILEE JAMBOREE CANCELLATIONS - by Howard Fears

In the notes which follow, I would emphasise that the comments are based on cancellations in my possession or from those which I have seen. I am hopeful that they will lead other club members to examine their own copies and to let me know if they can add any information. Only in this way can a detailed and complete analysis be built up. I am not concerned with varieties on the stamps themselves or with types of cachets.

There was only one public post office at the Jamboree site itself and this actually opened for business on July 29th. when all normal post office facilities were available, including registration. I mention this because the labels applied to registered mail were inscribed SUTTON COLDFIELD J followed by a serial number. As with the registered mail handstamp the "J" was the code letter for the Jamboree. Ordinary mail posted at the post office on July 29th., 30th. and 31st. received the usual Sutton Coldfield mark, viz. SUTTON COLDFIELD WKS inscribed in circular form. From the time that the special post office was open, registered mail received the full designation of the Jamboree i.e. registration labels bore the letter 'J' and the distinctive registered mail cancellation was employed. The volume of registered post despatched from the Jamboree was not outstandingly great: the earliest example in my possession is No. 0011 dated July 30th. followed by No. 0030 on July 31st. On the opening day, August 1st., the numbers I have are 0160 and 0165 but the total number of registered labels used on that day must have been less than 600, since I have No. 0617 on a cover

dated August 2nd. At intervals, other examples show the gradual use of these labels but on the last official day of J.I.M., namely August 12th., my example is No. 1043, others in my possession, after the official closing date, are numbered 1088 (August 13th.) and 1094 (August 14th.) It would thus seem fair to say that approximately 1100 registered labels were used by the Jamboree post office during the whole period it was open for business. (It was quoted in "Stamp Collecting", September 6th. on the authority of Mr. F.C. Barford, the Scouter-in-charge of the mail services, that 3140 registered items were handled by J.I.M. voluntary staff during the period July 29th. to August 14th. Editor). This number should be compared with the estimates of 500,000 ordinary covers despatched on August 1st. via the special G.P.O. arrangement and a further 101,000 covers actually posted at the camp on the first day.

It would appear that three different cancellations were used at the Jamboree - for ordinary mail, for registration purposes and for parcels. The former was used only from 1st. to 12th. August; it is markedly similar to that used in many towns before the Jamboree (see previous article) the only difference being the deletion of the words SUTTON COLDFIELD WARWICKSHIRE at the bottom. Thus the actual inscription reads "WORLD SCOUT JUBILEE JAMBOREE", these words enclosing the date "1 - 12 AUG 1957" and, in the centre, is a reproduction of the Scout badge.

All but one of my impressions used on parcels have failed to "take" and they are therefore, largely indecipherable; however, from the one good impression I have, it would seem that the parcel cancellation did not incorporate any distinctive feature: it consists of the words "SUTTON COLDFIELD WARWICKSHIRE" applied by a circular handstamp; between the first letter S and the end of the county name are two dashes separated by what appears to be the figure 4. The whole of the above is circumscribed on both sides by a black line and in the centre of the inner circle are the time, date and year of posting.

The circular registration cancellation is larger than either of the others. Around the edge of the circle are the words "SUTTON COLDFIELD J WKS" in that order. No time of posting is shown and the date is recorded in one straight line in the centre e.g. 1 AU 5'7. I have heard of several irregularities in these cancellations chiefly being based on the absence or otherwise of certain letters of the name (This is understandable since the handstamp is of the "skeleton" type in which all the letters are movable; thus, after cleaning, it would be quite possible, in a rush, for any of the type (letters) to be replaced in, say, an inverted position: such a variety is not rare with the "skeleton" type of handstamp. Editor). I do not think it will be easy to confirm or disprove any such suggestions,

since the majority of registered impressions seem, at best, difficult to read. (Apparently the counter on which registered mail was handstamped was a temporary-structure and not sufficiently robust to withstand heavy pressure. Editor) There is, however, one constant variety, as far as I can trace, but whether this is merely the difference between one handstamp and another I would not like to say: this variety is an asterisk inserted centrally above the date. From clear impressions on covers and Certificates of Posting it would seem that I have distinct examples of both cancellations dated July 31st., August 3rd., 8th., 10th., and 12th., all incorporating the asterisk of which there is no trace whatever on the other days. I am not yet in a position to say that on a given day examples of both may be found.

This survey is not by any means intended to be exhaustive, but before concluding, I would mention two interesting items. The first concerns mail "to be called for" - It would seem this was not, in fact, retained at the post office but was passed to the appropriate sub-camp and distributed: no "Sutton Coldfield" was applied to such mail. Secondly, I received a letter on August 22nd. which had been awaiting collection for three weeks; it bore, in mauve, the words "CAMP DISBANDED/RETURN TO SENDER" in two lines (This was made up from sans serif movable rubber type. Editor) I have no idea of the duration of use of this handstamp.

I am sure that many other collectors will be able to add to the above notes especially those fortunate ones who were at the Jamboree itself. I should, therefore, welcome any additional contributions and perhaps can combine them into another article at a later date.

(We are greatly indebted to our Secretary for these very full notes. Please send in any information you may have that will help confirm any doubtful point he has raised. Editor)

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Corrigenda. Volume 1, No.2 - under "The Mafeking Baden Powell stamps - Perforations" - for "Thompson and Son" read "Townsend and Son".

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NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Starting in the next issue of the Journal you will be able to advertise your Scout stamp wants, offers for sale, exchange, etc., WITHOUT CHARGE. Each member is invited to submit his or her own advert. for which no charge will be made for the first 16 words. Subsequent words will be charged at the rate of 1d. per word with a minimum charge of 1 shilling. Items for inclusion in the next issue, together with the necessary amount to cover any additional wording, should be sent to the Editor by December 14th.

NEW ISSUES

Although a number of countries have recently issued Scout stamps to commemorate Jubilee year and the Centenary of B-P's birth, space in this number does not permit the recording of these as fully as has been done in previous Journals and they will therefore be dealt with in our December number.

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ERRORS - REAL OR IMAGINARY?

Have you noticed that the design of some Scout stamps have either been officially described incorrectly or that it contains an error, fortuitous and not intentional, I hope? Here are a few examples. Do you know of any others?

The emblem of the 7th. World Jamboree which appears on the 1951 AUSTRIAN stamp has been popularly, but erroneously, called a Jews harp. Do let us call it by its correct name - a maultrommel.

The Pan Pacific Jamboree stamps of AUSTRALIA issued in 1948 and 1952 both depict what has been described as "an ideal Rover Scout of the Jamboree" - Why the stave? Surely a thumb stick would have been more appropriate?

The emblem for the 6th. World Jamboree shown on the 1947 stamp of FRANCE is usually referred to as "a double carrick bend". Omit the word "double" and it will be correct so my naval friends tell me.

The design of the recent 2½d. Jamboree stamp of GREAT BRITAIN has been officially described as "a rolling hitch surrounding the Boy Scout badge on the left and a three-quarter face portrait of the Queen on the right". Was the designer, Miss Mary Adshead, ever a Girl Guide? I doubt it, otherwise she would have shown the hitch correctly, using only one piece of rope!

All the stamps, both for ordinary mail and air mail, of the recently issued set of NICARAGUA bear the dates 1856-1956! Has someone blundered or was it deliberate? If so, why? The 3c. value also shows clasped hands of friendship superimposed on a globe. Do Nicaraguan Scouts use the right hand shake?

SPECIAL OFFER TO CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

The Secretary has received a small supply of cacheted, registered, air-mail, first day covers from the Sutton Coldfield Jamboree. They were all despatched to Nyasaland, and, apart from bearing the full set of three stamps, have been backstamped in Nyasaland. Each cover is inscribed "From the first contingent of Scouts from Nyasaland to visit England." Price 4/- each (50c U.S.A. etc.), plus postage. Apply direct to Mr. Fears.

FROM THE SECRETARY

At the time of writing - mid September - membership of the Club is well over the 60 mark, and still rising. Nine countries, apart from the United Kingdom, are represented, and enquiries have also come from other countries. But as you can well imagine, the greater the membership, the more the club will be able to proceed with plans, which, we believe will be beneficial to all members. Our target is 100 and with your support, I know we can reach this. If every member were to try to obtain another, I could well imagine the target-being achieved within our first year's existence. So, do your best; I know I can rely on you.

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I am hoping it will be possible to publish a list of members shortly so that those of you who wish may get in touch with one another. In our next number I hope to have something to say about the varieties which can be found on the G.B. Jubilee Jamboree stamps. Since it will not be sent out until after the Christmas festivities, the President, Secretary and I join in wishing you the compliments of the Season.

Sincerely yours,

Wilf Nodder.

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A D V E R T.

Scout stamps and covers, bought, sold and exchanged.

For Sale:-

	s.	d.		s.	d.
1956 Iran, pair mint.....	6.	6	*1957 Netherlands Antill-)	3.	0
*1957 Philippines, perf.)		8	es (3) mint		
mint			1957 Cuba F.D.C. plain ..	2.	6
*1957 Philippines, imperf.)	1.	6	1957 " cacheted cover ..	4.	0
mint			1957 Finland cover	3.	0
*1957 Finland, mint	1.	3	1957 Iran cover	4.	6
1957 Nicaragua (15), mint.	9.	6	1957 Korea cover	6.	6
1957 " miniature sheets)	22.	6	1955 Sweden camp cover ..	3.	6
(2))			1956 " " " ..	3.	6
*1957 Iran, 1 OR, mint ...	2.	9	1953 New Zealand health).	1.	0
1957 Korea (2), mint	4.	0	cover)		
*1957 Cuba (2), mint	2.	3	1956 Australia Pan).....	2.	0
*1957 Luxembourg (2), mint.	1.	0	Pacific card)		
1956 Israel Scout cover .	3.	6	1953 Liechtenstein souven)		
			-ir card with 4)	6.	0
			Scout stamps		

All items subject unsold. Cash with order. Postage extra.
Roy Rhodes, 38 Richmond Avenue, Highams Park, London, E.4.