

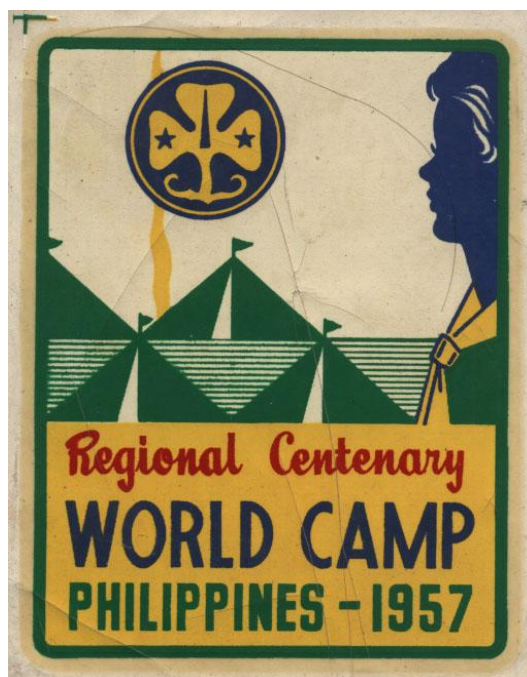
1957 World Camps by Mike Gosling

At the 15th World Conference of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts it was decided to mark the centenary of the birth of Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Guiding, by holding a World Camp in four locations. These were the Philippines, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada.

The Philippines World Camp. San Bartolome, Quezon City. 19th January – 2nd February.

The camp was split into five regions : Northern Luzon, Central Luzon, Southern Luzon, Mindanao-Sulu and Visayas. Each region had four unit camps of 26 campers. Each unit was split into patrols, the Guides lived in large cool and airy wooden Nipa Huts.

The Opening Ceremony took place on 20th January. Each of the 23 participating countries released a golden arrow, the symbol of friendship. These included :- Australia, British North Borneo, Burma, Canada, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaya, New Zealand, Norway, Okinawa, Pakistan, Philippines, Sarawak, Switzerland and the United States.



Collectables known to have been issued :-

- Camp Handbook
- Camp schedule
- Water slide decal
- Printed neckerchief
- Postage stamp and first day covers

Swiss World Camp. Goms Valley, Switzerland. 22nd July – 2nd August.



Participant's badge

This the largest of the four World Camps, was organised into nine camp villages. These stretched along 20 miles of the Goms Valley (Valley de Conches in French). The villages were connected by a special steam train the Gommer Express, which went up and down the valley for times a day. The journey between Binn at one end and Oberwald at the other taking almost two hours.

On Sunday 28th July 6,700 Guides from 35 Countries gathered together for a Rally at Ulrichen and to listen to an address by the World Chief Guide Olave Baden-Powell. This was the only time all the participants came together. The rest of the time the programme was centered around the nine villages.





Rally at Ulrichen. Lady BP

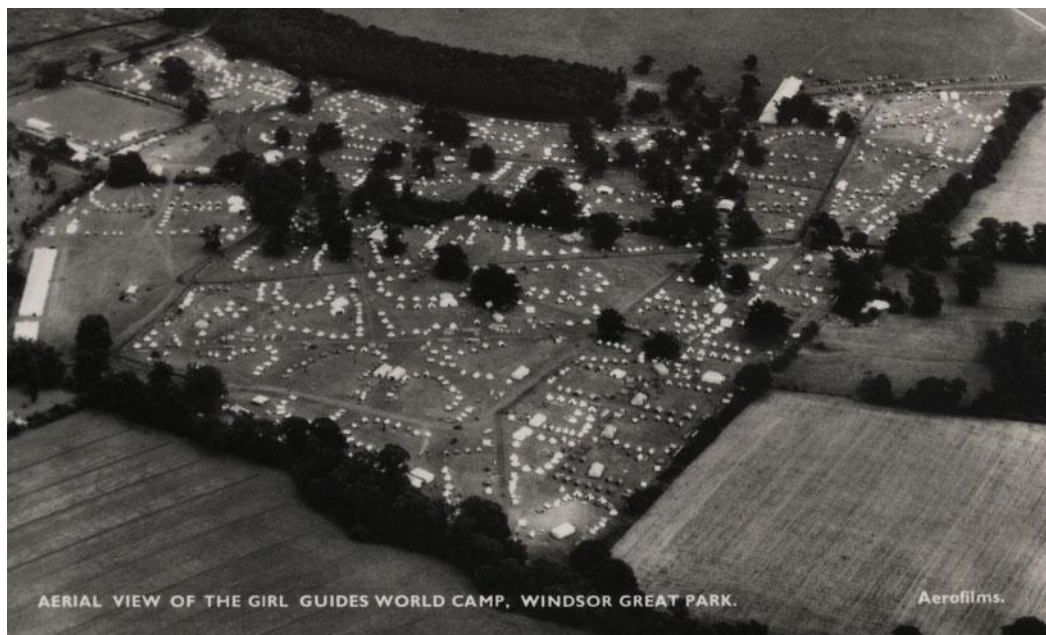
Collectables known to have been issued :-

Anodised aluminium Participants badge
Yellow neckerchief with star and two trees
Orange cap
Camp newspaper
Special Swiss Post Office Cancellation.

Windsor World Camp. Windsor Great Park, England. 26th July – 8th August

4,000 Guides and Girl Scouts from the following countries attended the Windsor World camp: Aden, Antigua, Austria, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, British Guiana, British Honduras, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar, Grenada, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Liberia, Lithuanian Guides in Exile, Luxembourg, Malaya, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria. Northern Rhodesia, Norway, Nyasaland,

Pakistan, Philippines, Polish Guides in Exile, Portugal, St. Helena, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Sweden, Tanganyika, Trinidad, Uganda, United States of America and Zanzibar.



The camp was divided into ten sections, with each section split into eight groups. Each group name had a connection with BP. Each camper wore a disc which was two thirds section colour and one third group colour. The Camp was officially opened on Tuesday 30th July by the World Chief Guide Lady Baden-Powell. H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. The Princess Royal visited the Camp on Sunday 4 August.



H.M. The Queen at Windsor



Souvenirs

Collectables known to have been issued :-

- Enameled metal Participants badge
- Printed felt souvenir badge
- Printed felt pennant
- Printed plastic pennant
- Programme
- Letter heading
- Attendance certificate
- Pencil
- Adhesive decal
- Screen printed handkerchief
- Finale ticket 6 August. Various colours
- Divine Service programme 4 August
- Book of matches
- Windsor World Camp newspaper. Five issues.

Canadian World Camp. Doe Lake, Ontario. 8th – 19th August

The camp was split into four sub-camps named after Indian tribes. Bella Coola, Mic-Mac, Iroquois and Cree. The official opening was held on 9th August when flags of 41 Nations were hoisted. These included :-

Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Finland, France, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

In the evening a Camp fire was held in the amphitheatre. The fire was started with wood from the Philippines World Camp and each country contributed a piece of wood. The British contribution was oak from Windsor. During the camp all had an opportunity to visit Algonquin National Park a site for the preservation of wild life and Sugar Bush where the process of making maple sugar was demonstrated. Also an overnight canoe trip where the Guides and Girl scouts camped on one of the islands on Doe Lake.

The British Contingent consisted of a total of 44 Guides and Guiders.



Participant's Badge.



Doe Lake

Collectables known to have been issued :-

- Participants badge
- Bookmark
- The Order for Morning Service
- Postcard
- News from the Sub Camps booklet
- Special issue of The Canadian Guide