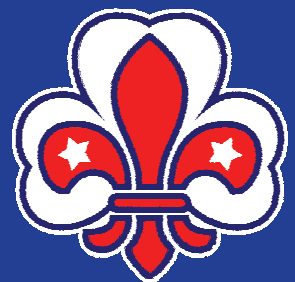




OLD THOUGHTS – NEW VISIONS



INTERNATIONAL SCOUT AND GUIDE FELLOWSHIP

OLD THOUGHTS – NEW VISIONS

The idea behind this booklet is to give a glimpse into Baden-Powell's life, thoughts and methodical attempts to put words into action. Baden-Powell was not only interested in the Scout Movement; he was also very concerned about current affairs.

Baden-Powell has left us a treasury of wise sayings. Many of them are collected in the book "Footsteps of the Founder", edited by Mario Sica. We asked ourselves: Can these sayings from a bygone age inspire us? Did BP have ideas about adults and scouting that are relevant today? Can the guilds benefit from samples of this material? For us the answer was yes.

We have concentrated on five themes:

1. Scouting and adult life – that we have called: BP's "Blue Patrol".
2. Man of Peace
3. Working together – working for others
4. An open mind – being aware of nature and people around us and learning from them.
5. Playing the game.

Why only five themes? For us, these five issues are crucial. People ask what "the spirit of the guilds" is. We believe that the essence of these five themes is the main ingredient of that spirit.

Nutritional experts have a slogan. Not just "An apple a day...", but "Five (fruits) every day" are important for a balanced, healthy diet. We hope that the five themes we have chosen will contribute to a healthy and fruitful life in the guilds.

We have included some of Baden-Powell's speeches.

The booklet is intended as a source for camp-fire conversations or as inspiration for a "Five minute reflection".

Go well in the footsteps of the founder!

Oslo, October 2013

Arve Urlin, Vivi Heine-Hansen, Ivan Chetwynd, Björg Walstad.

*St. George Guilds in Norway
Norwegian Scout and Guide Fellowship*

The quotes are taken from

**"Footsteps of the Founder. The Baden-Powell Quotation Book",
red. Mario Sica (WOSM, 1981, 2006).**

The figures in brackets refer to the same number in the original document.

Most of the drawings are from Baden-Powell's books.

1. BPs BLUE PATROL

(Guild members in Norway are known for their blue shirts and sweaters.)



Baden-Powell wrote about “old scouts” or “senior scouts”. With that he meant rovers – but the things he wrote about roving can apply to us who are even older – whether we have been scouts or not.

Quotations:

☞ By roving I don’t mean aimless wandering, I mean finding your way by pleasant paths with a definite object in view, and having an idea of difficulties and danger you are likely to meet with by the way.⁽⁷⁰⁸⁾

☞ Don’t let Scouting go down. Here you have a real opportunity for service by keeping up the Movement for the benefit of your younger brothers. By so doing you will be helping your country and your neighbour and thereby doing service to God.⁽⁷¹⁶⁾

☞ Rovers are a brotherhood of the open air and service. They are not only a brotherhood, but a jolly brotherhood, with its camp comradeship, its uniform and its “dens” or meeting places all over the world.

Since it is a brotherhood of wanderers, you can, as a member of it, extend your travels to foreign countries and there make your friendship with brother Rovers of other nationalities.

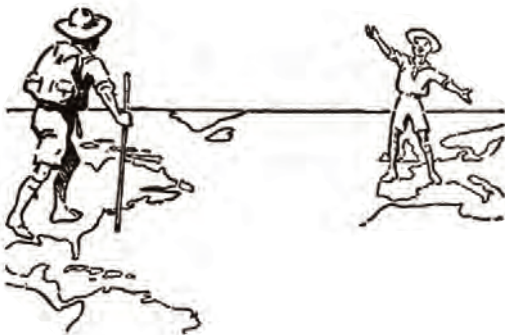
This side of our Movement is not only interesting and educative, but it is going to make a real step in ensuring the future peace of the world through mutual goodwill.⁽⁷⁰⁹⁾

☞ Our Rover Scout scheme has purposely been left sketchy and elastic, because it is a difficult branch for which to lay down any hard-and – fast programme. So much depends on local circumstances.⁽⁷¹¹⁾

☞ The object (of Roving) is to complete the sequence of training from boyhood to manhood, through the progressive grades of Wolf Cub, Scout and Rover.⁽⁷¹²⁾

☞ Don’t let the technical outweigh the moral. Field efficiency, backwoodsmanship, camping, hiking, good turns, jamboree comradeship are all means, not the end. The end is character- character with a purpose.

And that purpose that the next generation be sane in an insane world, and develop the higher realisation of Service, the active service of Love and Duty to God and neighbour.⁽⁷⁹⁵⁾



SCOUTING IS NOT A SCIENCE

Questions:

- ▶ “Sketchy and elastic” – is that your impression of the guilds?
- ▶ “Sane in an insane world”. Are there symptoms of insanity in the world today? What are they? Are scouts/guides/guild members free for these symptoms?
- ▶ What “definite object” has your guild “in view”?

2. MAN OF PEACE

BP opposed many attitudes in the military system. The scout law expresses a positive view and faith in the good in human beings. Between the wars, BP and Olave took the initiative for a cruise for peace. He was awarded the Carnegie Institute's Wateler Peace Prize in 1937 for his services to world peace and promoting international good will through the Scout Movement. In 1938 he was nominated for the 1939 Nobel Peace Prize, but the prize was never awarded because of the outbreak of war.



Carnegie-Wateler
Peace Prize



Quotations:

☞ Brothers we are to our boys, brothers to each other we must be, if we are going to do any good. What we need (in the SCOUT Movement) is not merely the spirit of good-natured tolerance but of watchful sympathy and readiness to help one another.⁽⁷⁷⁴⁾

☞ Several further millions exist among the adults who have gone through our training, not only in character, health and active helpfulness and patriotism, but in a larger sense of friendship and brotherhood with one another irrespective of class or creed or country, in countries foreign to our own.

Thus there is growing up a leaven, small at present but increasing daily, of men and women in each nation, imbued with mutual comradeship of one another and with the definite will for peace.⁽²⁴⁴⁾

☞ A bowline knot is like friendship: a helpful loop that never slips nor comes undone.⁽²⁴⁷⁾

☞ If you have no fear for the people you meet and no dislike for them, they will likewise not be afraid or suspicious of you and will be inclined to like you and to be friends.⁽²⁵¹⁾

☞ If the price of a Dreadnought were made available to us for developing this international friendliness and comradeship between the rising generations, I believe we in the Scouts would do more towards preventing war than all the Dreadnoughts put together.⁽⁵⁴⁷⁾

☞ International peace can only be built on one foundation, and this is an international desire for peace on the part of the peoples themselves in such strength as to guide their Governments.⁽⁵⁴⁶⁾

☞ You need not wait for war in order to be useful as a Scout. As a peace Scout there is lots for you to do any day, wherever you may be – ⁽⁹⁶⁰⁾

☞ The first step of all (towards international peace) is to train the rising generations – in every nation – to be guided in all things by an absolute sense of justice. When men has it as an instinct in their conduct of all affairs of life to look at the question impartially from both sides before becoming partisans of one, then, if a crises arises between two nations, they will naturally be more ready to recognize the justice of the case and to adopt a peaceful solution, which is impossible so long as their minds are accustomed to run war as the only resource.⁽⁵⁴⁸⁾

☞ It is the spirit that matters. Our Scout Law and Promise, when we really put them into practice, take away all occasion for wars and strife between nations.⁽⁹⁷⁵⁾

Questions:

- ▶ How can the guilds preserve the commitment to peace?
- ▶ What is the significance of the Peace light from Bethlehem?
- ▶ How can the guilds spread commitment to peace to others?

3. WORKING TOGETHER – WORKING FOR OTHERS

Baden-Powell had clear ideas about “good turns” and their importance for our personal development.



MOTTO: “A SCOUT IS ACTIVE IN
DOING GOOD, NOT PASSIVE IN
BEING GOOD.”

Quotations:

☞ By “doing good” I mean making yourself useful and doing small kindnesses to other people- whether they be friends or strangers. It is not a difficult matter, and the best way to set about it is to make up your mind to do at least one “good turn” to somebody every day, and you will soon get into the habit of doing good turns always. It does not matter how small the “good turn” may be- even if it is only to help an old woman across the street, or say a good word for somebody who is being badly spoken of. The great thing is to do something.⁽²⁷⁸⁾

☞ To get a habit you must first carry out a great deal of practice, and that is why it is part of the Scout Law to do a Good Turn every day.⁽²⁹¹⁾

☞ In the Scout and Guide movements we promote the daily Good Turn as the embryo of a greater development of goodwill and helpfulness.⁽²⁸⁸⁾

☞ The boy has a natural instinct for good if he only sees a practical way to exercise it, and this Good Turn business meets and develops it, and in developing it brings out the spirit of Christian charity towards his neighbour.⁽²⁸⁶⁾

☞ At first it may come a little difficult to remember each day to have this duty to do (a Good Turn) and you may have some trouble in finding a job that will be helpful to other people. If you stick to it and force yourself to do it day by day, it very soon grows into a habit with you and you then find how many little things you can do which all count as good turns although small in themselves.⁽²⁸⁴⁾

☞ When you have done a good thing, don’t hang about to be thanked or to be made a hero of, get away quietly and unnoticed. That’s the way with Scouts.⁽²⁸³⁾

☞ A really valuable man (is) one who can be trusted to play in his place and to play the game in obedience to the rules and to his captain, not for his own glorification but in order that his side may win.⁽¹⁶⁴⁾

☞ It is only through goodwill and co-operation that is, through service for others – that a man reaches true success, which is happiness. For then he finds that heaven is here in this world, and not merely a vision of the next.⁽³¹⁵⁾



Questions:

- ▶ In the past, the “good turn” was an important element in scouting. Is there still room for it in scout programmes today?
- ▶ What does “good turn” mean?
- ▶ If you have been a scout, what did you think about this demand? If you have not been a scout, what do you think about the scouts’ “good turn”?
(Did people make fun of it or tell jokes that made you laugh?)
- ▶ BP explains why the good turn is important for the development of the scout’s personality. Is “good turn” important in the life of the guilds?

4. AN OPEN MIND



Be aware of nature and people around you and learn from them.



Quotations:

- ☞ Nature study is the key activity in Scouting and Guiding.⁽⁴⁵⁵⁾
- ☞ The aim in Nature study is to develop a realisation of God the Creator, and to infuse a sense of the beauty of Nature.⁽⁴⁵⁷⁾
- ☞ I do not suggest Nature study as a form of worship or as a substitute for religion, but I advocate the understanding of Nature as a step, in certain cases, towards gaining religion.⁽⁴⁶³⁾
- ☞ For those who have eyes to see and ears to hear the forest is at once a laboratory, a club and a temple.⁽⁴⁶⁴⁾
- ☞ The man who is blind to the beauties of Nature has missed half the pleasure of life.⁽⁴⁶⁵⁾
- ☞ Don't be content with the what, but get to know the why and the how.⁽¹⁴⁰⁾

BP emphasises the importance of good relationships with people around us. They have a lot to teach us, if we try to listen to them.

Quotations:

- ☞ If you want to make the world a happy place always look around and see the other man's point of view and you may find that there is something to be said for his side as well as for your own.⁽²⁹⁾
- ☞ The whole excitement of life is facing difficulties and dangers and apparent impossibilities, and in the end getting a chance of attaining the summit of the mountain.⁽¹⁴³⁾
- ☞ I believe that God put us in this jolly world to be happy and enjoy life. The real way to get happiness is by giving happiness to other people.⁽³²⁰⁾
- ☞ In my life I have found at least three ways in which difficulties can be successfully met. The first is Duty, the second Fairness, and the third, the most potent weapon – Love.⁽¹⁵¹⁾
- ☞ Remember, no matter how badly off you are in wealth or health, you can always bring a ray of cheer into other people's lives, and in so doing you bring the best kind of happiness into your own.⁽³¹⁸⁾
- ☞ I say to you: Look Wide, beyond the immediate stones in your path; see what that path is leading to, and go ahead with good cheer. You will find others on the same path with yourselves, possibly not so well equipped: give them a helping hand as you go.⁽⁹⁵⁷⁾

Questions:

- Knowledge and experience of nature has always been a hallmark of scouting and has had a central place in training programmes. If you have been a scout, has this influenced your life as an adult?
- How can we as members of a guild live in harmony with nature? Is this relevant for guild activities? Can you give examples?
- Baden-Powell meant that we should see the people around us, be aware of their needs, not only to help them, but also to encourage them. How can this enrich your everyday life as an adult?
- Responsibility and teamwork were important, so that patrols could develop and achieve results: everyone should contribute and learn. Do we practice this in the guilds? If so, how?
- Jamborees and camps with visitors from other countries have always provided scouts and guides with the possibility of making friends across the boundaries of culture and language. Do we keep this up in the guilds?

5. PLAYING THE GAME

The boy-man



Quotations:

☞ Watch the lad going down the street, his eyes are looking far out. Is his vision across the prairie or over the grey-backed seas? At any rate, it isn't here. Don't I know it!

Have you never seen the buffaloes roaming in Kensington Gardens? And can't you see the smoke from Sioux Lodges under the shadow of the Albert Memorial? I have seen them there many years.

Through Scouting the boy has now the chance to deck himself in a frontier kit as one of the great Brotherhood of Backwoodsmen. He can track and follow signs, he can signal, he can light his fire and build his shack and cook his grub.⁽³⁾

☞ Boys can see adventure in a dirty old duck-pond, and if the Scoutmaster is a boy-man he can see it too.⁽²⁾

According to Baden-Powell, a good scoutmaster should be a "boy-man". We can add: or a "girl-woman".

Playing the game

Quotations:

☞ Play is the most important thing in life to a boy.⁽⁶¹¹⁾

☞ Games are but steps to learning how to play a bigger game – the game of life.⁽²⁵⁷⁾

☞ Life is a game rather than a period of slavery, and it is a good game if played hopefully, but it is not a game of cribbage. It is rather a game of football where you must expect a few knocks and tumbles in the mud, but these should not choke you off jumping up and going at it again with a cheery determination to play the game for your side and not all for yourself.⁽³⁹²⁾

☞ When Cubs play they should be encouraged not to mess about, but to play heartily. Games properly organised develop the important items of laughter, good nature and comradeship, as well as physical health and activity, while team games further develop unselfishness, esprit de corps and fair play.⁽²⁵⁸⁾

☞ The game of hide- and-seek is really one of the best games for a boy and can be elaborated until it becomes scouting in the field. It teaches you a lot.⁽²⁵⁴⁾

☞ I do not want Cubmasters to feel themselves fettered by traditions, rules and syllabuses. Their own experience and imaginations, their own boyishness and sympathy with boy nature will be their best guide.⁽⁷³²⁾

"If adult life is about no more than growing old and making money, then so much the worse for adult life." *

*(Tim Jeal. "Baden-Powell. Founder of the Boy Scouts"
(Hutchinson 1989, Yale University press 2001.)



Questions:

- ▶ Is it important to preserve a childlike mind, even after we have ceased to be a scout or guide leader?
- ▶ Is there – and should there be – room for playing games in our guild activities?

Other Quotations:

☞ I would urge that (at the Jamboree) we do not let our boys be content with the mere fact of being in camp with those of other nations, but that we should encourage them to utilise every minute of the short time they are there to make acquaintance, and from acquaintance friendship, with their brother Scouts, their future fellowmen in the world. Each boy could then go forth from the Jamboree with new responsibility upon him, namely that of an apostle, to his particular district, of peace and goodwill. ⁽³⁵⁶⁾

☞ The Movement primarily is a brotherhood of service of boys and men. It is a school of character and citizenship, of personal efficiency for the good of community. ⁽⁷⁷²⁾

☞ Our aim is to decentralize administration as much as possible, in order to avoid red tape, and give as much democratic autonomy as can be given to localities. We are a brotherhood rather than an organisation, moved by the spirit and unwritten law of loyalty rather than by printed rules and regulations. ⁽⁷⁷⁶⁾

☞ I don't like giving orders: it is not our way in the Scouts. Our sense of duty from within guides us, and should not be imposed from without. ⁽⁷⁶⁶⁾

☞ Doing is better than talking, making is better than reading. ⁽²⁰⁴⁾

☞ You will be happy if you aim to leave this world a little better for your being in it.

☞ One step in this direction, as a father, is to make your boy a better man than yourself. ⁽²⁰⁹⁾

☞ I never suggest to people to do what I would not do myself. ⁽²³⁴⁾

☞ A man who has no friends is the man who gives out no friendship. ⁽²⁴⁹⁾

☞ Friendship is like a boomerang; you give out your friendship to another chap and then to more and more and they give their friendship in return. So your original friendship and goodwill, as it goes to others, increases in strength and brings back this good will to you in return, just as the boomerang comes back to its thrower. ⁽²⁵⁰⁾

☞ Remember that St. Paul said that God was "the God of Hope". He gives you pluck and comfort at a bad time, and your hopefulness will comfort others round you and nerve them to stick out. ⁽³³⁷⁾

☞ The first step of all (towards international peace) is to train the rising generations – in every nation – to be guided in all things by an absolute sense of justice. When men have an instinct in their conduct of all affairs of life to look at the question impartially from both sides before becoming partisans of one, then, if a crisis arises between two nations, they will naturally be more ready to recognise the justice of the case and to adopt a peaceful solution, which is impossible so long as their minds are accustomed to run to war as the only resource. ⁽⁵⁴⁸⁾

☞ It is not the abolition of armies that will do away with war, any more than the abolition of police will do away the crime. We have to do away with the cause of war; armies are rather the effect that is the result of fear and of fighting spirit. And that is a matter of education. ⁽⁵⁵¹⁾

☞ The academic training has taught to generation after generation their national history with all its victories in war, too often dishonestly omitting its defeats, and maligning its enemies while extolling its piracies. The desirable course seems to be to change all this and to teach the rising generation the peaceful triumphs of their country and to think in terms of Peace towards other countries. ⁽⁵⁵²⁾

☞ "Goodwill and Co-operation" is the watchword for our Movement, and when this comes to be really established in practice in a nation, when the common good is promoted by all irrespective of the interests of class, party or creed, when we all give out instead of grasping in, then we shall see Peace and Prosperity ruling in our land. ⁽⁵⁵³⁾

☞ War is the Devil's work through a narrow self-conceit. Peace is God's work through love for all. So there lies a glorious work for every member of our brotherhood, whether Scouter, Rover, Scout or Cub – namely to give his help in any way that he can towards promoting friendliness and goodwill among the different nations of the world. ⁽⁵⁵⁴⁾

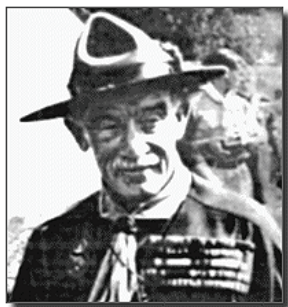
☞ The only true and sound foundation for peace in the world is the development of broader-minded, unselfish character in the peoples themselves, whereby they may form a united community in their own country and at the same time be sympathetic and friendly neighbours to others. ⁽⁵⁵⁷⁾

☞ When men can learn to see with each other's eyes and to give unself-seeking friendship to their neighbours, the chances of war must subside and the foundations of peace will be laid about the world. ⁽⁵⁵⁸⁾

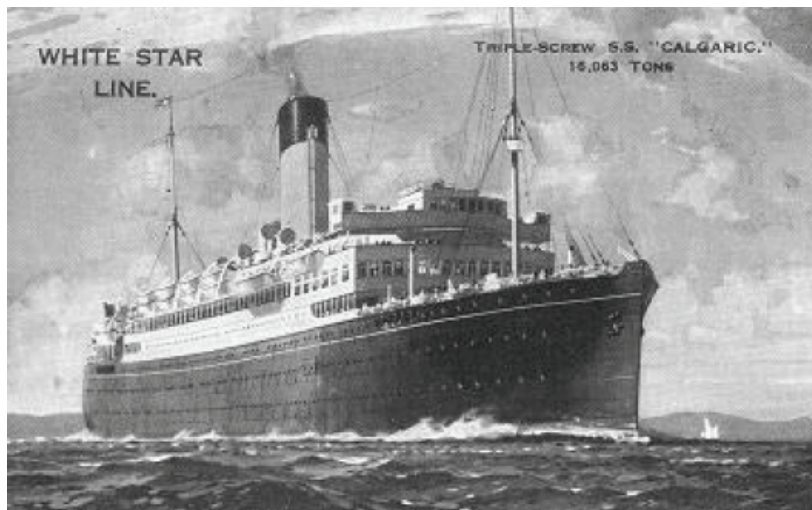
☞ Even though the more spectacular side of our work, the Jamborees and Peace Cruises of happier times, is in abeyance for the duration (of the war), there is still that most important part of our program – the quiet, regular instilling into our boys by example and practice of the habits of goodwill, toleration and understanding of others. These, if implanted in our Scouts of today, will in the future make war an unthinkable thing. So don't be discouraged. Good Scouts have never been so much needed in the world as they are today, and those of you who are turning them out may rest content that you are making to the future of the world a valuable contribution. ⁽⁵⁶⁰⁾

☞ It is the spirit that matters. Our Scout Law and Promise, when we really put them into practice, take away all occasion for wars and strife between nations. ⁽⁹⁷⁵⁾

☞ One of our tenets is to extend our goodwill and toleration so that we pay no regard to differences of class or country or creed. ⁽⁹³⁷⁾



THE CHIEF SCOUT'S ADDRESS AT THE SCOUTS' OWN, SUNDAY, AUGUST 27TH, 1933



Brother Scouts and Sister Guides, this is for us all a moment of deep feeling, because we are about to part, and this is the last occasion on earth when we shall all meet together in prayer and thanksgiving: I think thanksgiving must be a dominant feeling in our hearts to-day, when we are coming to the conclusion of this very happy and successful voyage.

When I was in Oslo the other day the English chaplain there spoke to me, and he said that he had watched our Movement as an outsider for many years and he could not help feeling that its success was a manifestation of the Hand of God backing up our effort; and when we come to look back on the history of our Movement, to see how it has grown up spontaneously without much help, without much propaganda, to spread itself so widely and to be felt so deeply, not only in our own country but in other countries as well, we cannot but feel that some Power greater than ourselves has been helping it forward to such a standing as it has reached to-day.

On this tour we have seen for ourselves a small part of what it has done among other people. This

has been a very happy cruise, where we have seen strange lands; we have come face to face with Nature at her best in the sunshine, in the calm seas, in the beauties of the countries, of the forests and the mountains, of the waters and the sunsets that we have seen. We cannot help feeling that the God of Nature has been with us. And then we have met our foreign brothers and sisters-unlike ourselves in many ways, unlike each other even in these neighbouring countries, speaking different languages, having different customs and different traditions, different histories, and unable even to talk to each other, yet all united under the one ideal of love and goodwill. We have seen that for ourselves, we have felt it, and we must realise that there is something behind us that is helping us forward-the spirit of Love. Therefore, I think we ought to pause for a moment in silent thanksgiving to God for having given us this happy outing, whence we come back refreshed and strengthened, I hope, both in mind and body; in thanksgiving for having found new friendships, new helpfulness, new experiences which we have exchanged with one another; in thanksgiving for fresh inspiration and new hope and faith

in what we are doing; in thankfulness for having made friends of other nations, who have welcomed us as we welcomed them, new friends to whom we hope we can be helpful, by spreading the right ideas and the right ideals of Scouting; in thankfulness for the privilege we have of helping, even in our small way, to develop that love which, if it only spreads, will mean the coming of the reign of God upon earth. Let us be thankful that we have seen all these things, especially that spirit of love in our neighboring nations. May the inspiration of it dwell in our hearts, and enable us to go forward in our work with confidence, with hope, with courage, with patience and with faith, to press on with what we are doing towards, and helping in, that great work of bringing about goodwill among men and peace upon earth.

So, my dear brothers, having given thanks to God, pray that you may go forward with renewed strength for the work that you are at, and let us all determine to do our best to carry it out.

Rose Kerr, The Cruise of the "Calgaric"
August 12th-29th, 1933, London: The Girl Guides Association.)

MAKE IT A HAPPY LIFE WHILE YOU HAVE IT



When one has passed the 75th milestone and has got to that stage of life when you think twice before deciding whether it is now worthwhile to order a new evening coat, it is allowable for one to look back along the road one has travelled.

Your natural inclination is to preach and to warn other travellers of snags in the path, but isn't it better to signal to them some of the joys by the way which they might otherwise miss?

The great thing that strikes you on looking back is how quickly you have come – how very brief is the span of life on this earth. The warning that one would give, therefore, is that it is well not to fritter it away on things that don't count in the end; nor on the other hand is it good to take life too

seriously as some seem to do. Make it a happy life while you have it. That is where success is, possible to every man.

Varied are the ideas of what constitutes “success”, e.g. money, position, power, achievement, honours, and the like. But these are not open to every man – nor do they bring what is real success, namely, happiness.

Happiness is open to all, since, when you boil it down, it merely consists of contentment with what you have got and doing what you can for other people.

As Sir Henry Newbolt sums it up: “The real test of success is whether a life has been a happy one and a happy giving one.”

Baseborn & Gilwell

SMILE



Once a Scout-always a Scout

Looking back on my own life, I have in my time bumped up against a stupendous lot of good luck. I have for instance, had the luck to live in the most interesting evolutionary epoch in the world's history, with its rapid development of motor-cars, aero planes, wireless, Tutankhamen, the Great War and World convulsion, and so on.

Then, too, I have met with a remarkable amount of kindness everywhere, not only from friends but from strangers as well. Also, I have had the luck to live two distinct lives – one as a soldier and a bachelor, the second as a pacifist and paterfamilias; both having the common attribute of Scouting, and both intensely happy.

That doesn't mean that I have not had difficulties and trials to face, but these have been the salt that savoured the feast.

For these I have found that a smile and a stick will carry you through all right, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred it is the smile that does the trick.

(When next you are worried or angry, force yourself to turn up the corners of your mouth and smile –and you will find the value of this tip.)

(Lessons from the varsity of life,
Chapter XI> Looking back.)



The B-P family at Gilwell Park 1929. Left to right: Heather, Lady Baden-Powell, by then Chief Guide, B-P who had just received peerage and took the title Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell; Betty and Peter. The dog was named "Shawgm" after the Scouts from Shropshire, Hereford, Worcester, Gloucester and Mommouth who gave him to B-P



Dear Scouts – if you have ever seen the play “Peter Pan” you will remember how the pirate chief was always making his dying speech because he was afraid that possible, when the time came for him to die, he might not have time to get it off his chest. It is much the same with me, and so, although I am not at this moment dying, I shall be doing so one of these days and I want to send you a parting word of goodbye.

Remember, it is the last time you will ever hear from me, so think it over.

I have had a most happy life and I want each one of you to have a happy life too.

I believe that God put us in this jolly world to be happy and enjoy life. Happiness does not come from being rich, nor merely being successful in your career, nor by self-indulgence. One step towards happiness is to make yourself healthy and strong while you are a boy, so that you can be useful and so you can enjoy life when you are a man.

Nature study will show you how full of beautiful and wonderful things God has made the world for you to enjoy. Be contented with what you have got and make the best of it. Look on the bright side of things instead of the gloomy one.

But the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best. “Be Prepared” in this way, to live happy and to die happy – stick to your Scout Promise always – even after you have ceased to be a boy – and God help you to do it.

Your friend,

Baden-Powell & Gilwell

(Found among Baden-Powell's papers
after his death, January 8th, 1941)

*From “Scouting for Boys”,
The Scout Association 1994*