

Introduction to the Troop Log account of the Ballinluig Summer Camp (1937)

By the Editor, G.L. Patrick (Glip)

Introduction

This document provides a transcript of the account of the Ballinluig Summer Camp (1937) obtained from the Troop Log covering the period 1935-39. The accounts were written by Ian Hardie.

The original text is provided, although some minor modifications have been made in terms of punctuation. Occasionally, a word has been added or modified by the editor to clarify the meaning of a sentence. Such words are in italics. The sketches and photos provided are scans of the originals, some of which have been 'touched up' for clarity. Additional comments are also provided in italics after the text. These serve to provide additional information or an explanation regarding what has been written. A red superscript number in the original text identifies when an additional comment has been made. In order to cut down on the number of comments provided, short summaries of the individuals mentioned in the log book are provided in the Appendix.

Abbreviations

ASM	Assistant Scout Master
DC	District Commissioner
GSM	Group Scout Master
PL	Patrol Leader
SM	Scout Master
SPL	Second Patrol Leader (Patrol Second)
TL	Troop Leader

July 2nd - July 16th 1937. Camp at Ballinluig - Perthshire.

Troop camped again on the same site as last year at Ballinluig: cooking was again done by the boys working in pairs, most successfully. The weather was wet the first week, thereafter better, but a very enjoyable time was had by all.

In camp:-

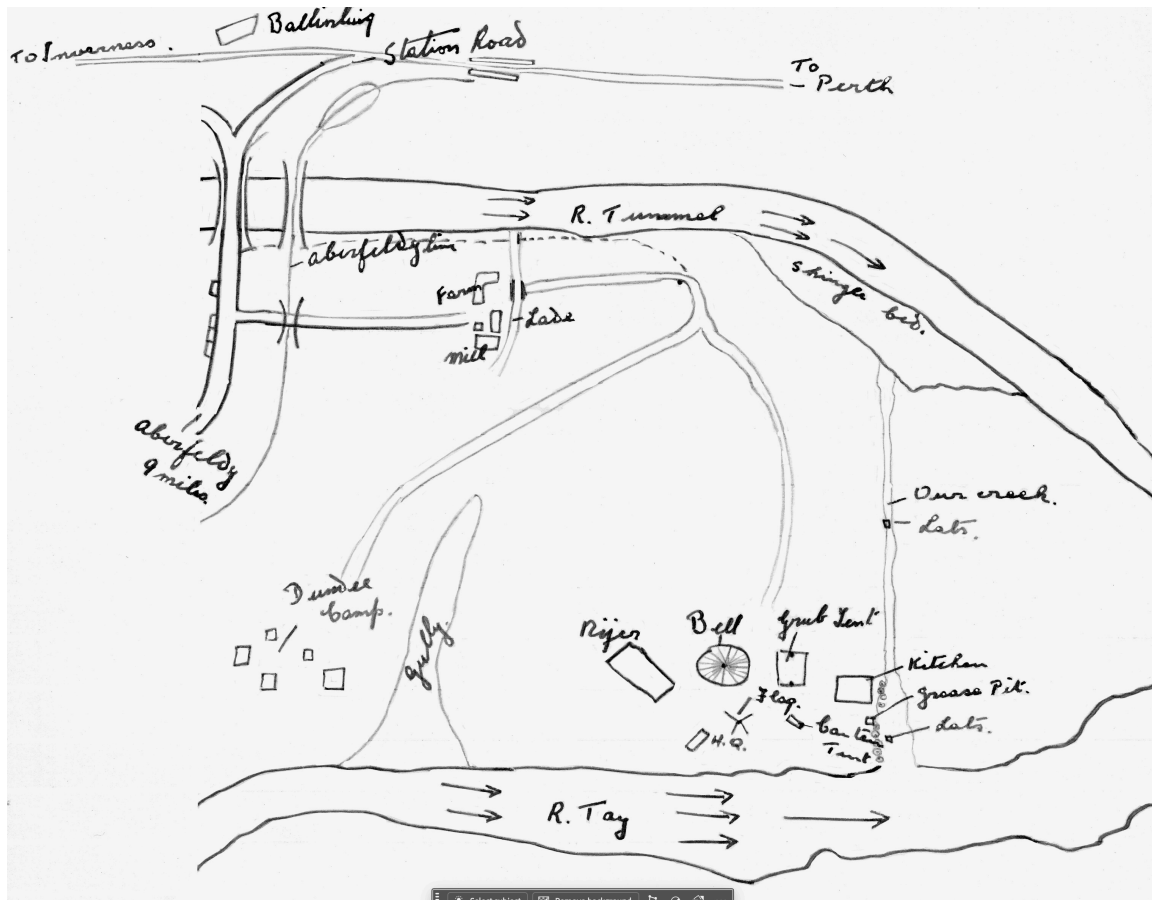
A. Ian Dunlop	G.S.M. In charge.
J.B. Hardie.	S.M.
E. Steel.	T.L.
R. Grant.	P.L.
L. Harvey.	P.L.
A. Brown.	Sec.
V. Clark; D. McKenzie; I. Munro; A. Campbell.; N. Smith; H. Steel; R. Leggat;	
G. Kinnel; T. Harvey; I. McFarlane.	

Visit by D.C. H.W. Butter for a weekend.

Comments

The full names of those participating were GSM Ian Dunlop; SM Ian Hardie; TL Eoin Steel; PL Ronald Grant; PL Lawrence Harvey; Sec. Archie Brown; Victor Clark; Duncan McKenzie; Ian Munro; Sandy Campbell; Nicol Smith; Hamish Steel; Richard Leggat; George Kinnel; Tennant Harvey and Ian McFarlane. See also Appendix 1 regarding Personalities

The Scouts cooked all their own meals, coming in pairs. This was instead of Central Cooking which had been abandoned in the Spring of 1936.



Sketch Map of the Campsite. The same spot was used as in 1936.

Tests passed at Camp:-

First Class-	Ambulance ¹ -	A. Brown, R. Grant
	Axemanship ² -	A. Campbell, I. Munro.
	Signalling ³ -	A. Brown, R. Grant
Second Class-	Ambulance ¹ -	R. Leggat, D. McKenzie.
	Signalling ⁴ -	R. Leggat.
	Firelighting ⁵ -	I. McFarlane, T. Harvey.
	Cooking ⁶	D. McKenzie.
	Scouts' Pace ⁷	R. Leggatt, G. Kinnel.
	Compass ⁸ -	G. Kinnel.

Comments

1. The requirements for the 1st and 2nd Class Ambulance (First Aid) tests are specified in Appendix 2.
2. The 1st Class axemanship test involved using an axe to fell or trim a tree.
3. To pass the 1st Class signalling test, Scouts had to send and receive a message in Semaphore at rate 4 (20 letters a minute) or in Morse at rate 3 (15 letters per minute). He also had to understand the use of the calling up sign VE and its answer K, the general answer, the end of message sign AR and its answer R, the alphabetical check for numerals, and the erase signal.
4. The 2nd Class signalling test involved knowing the signals for all of the letters and numerals using either semaphore or morse.
5. The firelighting test for the 2nd Class Badge involved laying and lighting a wood fire, in the open, using only two matches. Usually, natural kindling such as dry leaves or grass had to be used to start the fire (not paper).
6. The cooking test for the 2nd Class Badge involved cooking a main course (meat and two potatoes) outside over a wood fire.
7. Scout Pace involved walking 50 paces then running 50 paces then repeating the cycle until the full distance was covered. In the 1930s, it was one of the tests for the 2nd Class Badge and Scouts had to travel a mile in under 12 minutes.
8. The 2nd Class compass test at this time involved identifying the 16 points of the compass (N, NNE, NE, ENE, E, ESE, SE, SSE, S, SSW, SW, WSW, W, WNW, NW and NNW.)



The only photographs known to have been taken at the 1937 Summer Camp. The first photograph shows Ian Dunlop or Ian Hardie talking to four Scouts (not identified). Tentage consists of 1 Bell tent, 2 Patrol tents and 2 biker tents. The mill of Logierait is visible in the background.

Friday July 2nd 1937

Left Greenock 8.18, Glasgow 10.10 and arrived Ballinluig circa 1.00 p.m¹. Collected stores at station² and loaded on to a cart³; and so to camp site. River high.⁴

Camp pitched dry by 4.30 and had tea. Another troop (14th Dundee)- opposite corner of field were pitching in rain so we lent a hand and had them across to supper. Bed early.

Editorial Comments for 2nd July 1937

1. *The travel account provided in the Troop Log is remarkably matter of fact considering the logistics that were required in transporting a Troop of Scouts (along with personal gear, heavy camping equipment and at least two bicycles) on a journey that involved three separate trains. The Scouts departed from Princes Pier Station on a Glasgow train that travelled via Port Glasgow, Bridge of Weir, Kilmacolm and Paisley. The line terminated at St. Enoch's Station and from there the Scouts and their equipment had to be transferred about a mile to Buchanan Street Station. From there, they caught a train to Perth where they had to change train once more to catch the Inverness train. Their final destination was Ballinluig railway station. Considering the complexity of the journey, it is thought likely that railway companies of the time may have provided various forms of transport that allowed passengers and their equipment to be transferred between different platforms and between different stations. Note that all of the stations used by the Scouts in 1937 were closed during the 1960s, apart from Perth Railway Station.*

2. *This suggests that food was purchased in advance of the camp and was delivered to the railway station to be collected on arrival.*

3. *It is not known whether the cart was provided by the railway station or the farmer who owned the land that the Scouts were camping on. It is also not known what kind of the cart it was, in terms of it being hand drawn, horse drawn or motorised. However, the farmer provided transport back to the station at the end of the camp, so he may well have provided transport to the campsite at the start of the camp.*

4. *Indicative of heavy rain in recent days. This may explain why the sketch map shows the 'creek' connecting the River Tummel with the River Tay.*

5. *This was likely to be the 14th Dundee (Ryehill) Scout Group. It is believed that the 14th Dundee camped at the same campsite (Mill of Logierait) in 1931 and may have eventually merged with the 26th Dundee. However, this information is based on AI Google searches which can be unreliable.*

Saturday 3rd July 1937.

Rain. Latrines flooded so dug fresh ones further up the creek.

Editorial Comment for 3rd July 1937

The creek referred to a stream that flowed from the River Tummel and the River Tay across the peninsula on which the Scouts were camped. Curiously, the latrines and grease pits were placed directly next to the stream (see the sketch map provided). It is possible that this was standard practice during the 1930s such that a flow of water carried waste away. On the other hand, it may have been a misinterpretation of instructions where latrines etc were to be built 'downstream' of the campsite. Having said that, the creek in question must have flowed from the River Tummel to the River Tay which would be upstream of the campsite (see the entry for the 9th July). Nowadays, latrines and grease pit are located such that there is no risk of polluting water sources.

A recent visit of the campsite (4th May 2026) found that the creek was dry and it seems unlikely that water flows along the 'creek' unless the River Tummel is running exceptionally high (see also the entry for the 9th July 1937).

Sunday. 4th July 1937

Rain. Rose late, breakfasted and went to Logierait Church¹, leaving E. Steel with dinner. Despite rain, all walked in the vicinity after dinner till tea and after. Bed early.

Editorial Comments for 4th July 1937

1. The Parish Church at Logierait still exists and is used for Sunday services. It is situated on the A827 on the banks of the River Tay. It was well within walking distance. Although the church was built between 1804 and 1806, a Church has been present on the site since 650, and the churchyard contains a Pictish stone dating back to that era. Other objects of interest include 'mortsafes' which were iron cages designed to design grave robbers in the early 1800s. It is not known whether the Scouts were shown these features or not. Dr. Coll Macdonald preached the sermon. See also note 2 for the 12th July 1936.



Mortsafes



Pictish Stone

Monday. 5th July 1937

Day started fine. Kits outside¹ and camp bathed² and sunbathed. Rain came on about 11.30 and day was passed quietly till nine members went to flics in Pitlochry³ in the evening. They subsequently had to walk home in pouring rain⁴.

Editorial Comments for 5th July 1937

1. The usual practice on sunny days was to take personal kits and groundsheets out of the tents and then open the tent doors and braille the tent walls such that the sacking could dry and that the grass was given a chance to 'breathe'. This reduced the chances of unsightly yellow grass being visible once the tents were taken down at the end of the camp.

2. All bathing was in the River Tay alongside the campsite. It is likely that a couple of lookouts were posted during bathing sessions in case anybody got into trouble. This procedure was followed at the previous summer camp in 1936.

3. The Pitlochry Cinema (the Regal) was situated close to the junction between the A9 (which went through the town at the time) and the A-Class road heading towards Moulin. The cinema closed at some point between 1966 and 1980. The building still exists but is now occupied by a Fitness Club.



4. This involved a walk of about 5 miles. There were two possible routes that could have been taken – the A9 on the eastern side of the River Tummel or another road on the western side of the River Tummel. Note that roads were substantially quieter during the 1930s.

Tuesday. 6th July 1937

Rain. Camp did not breakfast 10. 30. Rain cleared about dinner time and engineering feats were accomplished in the sand of the creek¹. The rest of the camp went to the flics² this evening and got a 'bus home.

Editorial Comments for 6th July 1937

1. 'Engineering feats' was the term used by Ian Hardie when describing pioneering projects. In 1936, these involved the construction of a diving platform and a raft. The location of the project carried out in 1937 might suggest a bridge over the creek.
2. Another trip to the Pitlochry cinema.

Wednesday. 7th July 1937

Day started fine and camp was astir early.

Breakfast 8.30 and bathing¹ and sunbathing till dinner. Weather cloudy thereafter and little was done except a little test practice² and a lot of tree climbing.

A.I.D. went to Perth for an evening visit.³

Editorial Comments for 7th July 1937

1. See note 2 for the 5th July regarding bathing
2. Several training and testing sessions must have taken place during camp as demonstrated by the number of tests passed (see the list provided at the start of the log book account).
3. It is not known whether he travelled by bus or by train. But he would certainly have used public transport.

Thursday. 8th July 1937

Rain.

Editorial Comments for 8th July 1937

Very little information is provided on what the Scouts did when it was raining. It is likely that they were left to their own devices.

Friday. 9th July 1937

Dry. Camp rose early and some intrepid souls actually bathed¹ before breakfast and then again afterwards.

After dinner, the rain came on very heavily and the Tummel flooded through our creek into the Tay; it rose very fast and we were in danger of being washed away². Younger members of camp enjoyed the thrill, though not the prospect of being washed out of bed.³

Editorial Comments for 9th July 1937

1. See note 2 for the 5th July regarding bathing.
2. See also the note for the 3rd July 1937
3. According to Ian Dunlop in his summary of the camp provided for the Church magazine, the Scouts coped with the rain by wearing Scout hats, waterproof capes and sandshoes.

Saturday. 10th July 1937

Our first fine day. Up early and bathed¹. Breakfast.

Started camp games in style with a game of American Rugby in camp style² - a game worth noting for future uses. Throughout camp, this game was very popular, as was dodgeball, to the exclusion of cricket³ and other games except rounders. Bathing and sunbathing throughout the day.

Visit by D.C. H.W. Butter⁴ for the weekend, with his car:- in evening, four went by car for a run⁵.
Bed.

Editorial Comments for 10th July 1937

- 1. See note 2 for the 5th July regarding bathing*
- 2. It is assumed that this refers to American football, or an adaptation of it that possibly used a rugby ball.*
- 3. Cricket had been popular at previous Summer Camps and a 'cricket pitch' was identified on relevant sketch maps. The pupils at Greenock Academy would have been heavily involved in both rugby and cricket as the Academy probably fielded teams across all secondary school years.*
- 4. See Appendix 1 regarding the District Commissioner for Greenock, H.W. Butter.*
- 5. It is not known who the four were (other than H.W. Butter) or where they went.*

Sunday. 11th July 1937

Fine again. Scouts' Own¹ after breakfast and inspection².

Dinner³ (roast beef, potatoes and trifle).

Bathing⁴ and sunbathing.

Tea.

Rounders and bed.

In the afternoon, two members (J.B.H. and S.C.)⁵ walked up Moulin Hill⁶ and were rewarded by a fine view.

In evening, A.J.D. and H.W.B.⁷ went for a car run and returned very late.

Editorial Comments for 11th July 1937

1. A Scouts Own Service in camp was a short religious service involving the Scouts and the Scouters, several of whom would take an active part in the process.

2. Inspections have been a regular occurrence at Summer Camps and were generally carried out each day to ensure that standards were being maintained. However, it's not clear whether inspections at this camp were daily or not.

3. Dinner was the most substantial meal in camp and took place at midday. This was the conventional approach until the 1970s when the evening meal became the most substantial meal of the day.

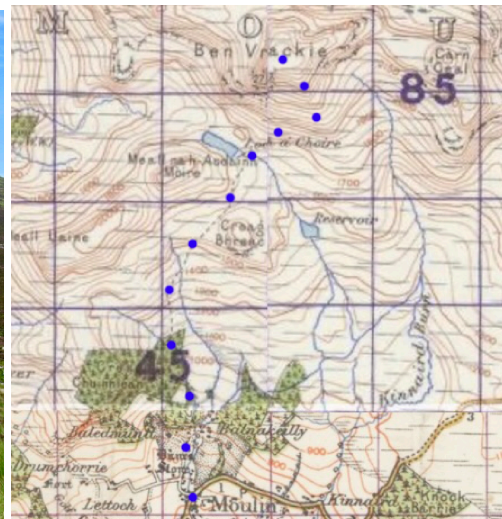
4. See note 2 for the 5th July regarding bathing.

5. Ian Hardie and Sandy Campbell.

6. There is no hill called 'Moulin Hill' and it is assumed that the walk was up Ben Vrackie (2759 feet) which is next to the village of Moulin. In the 1930s, a path led from the village of Moulin to the reservoir at the base of the mountain, but there was no path marked for the actual ascent.



Ben Vrackie as it looks today



1930s map of Ben Vrackie.

7. Ian Dunlop and H.Waller Butter.

Monday. 12th July 1937

Another glorious day. H.W.B¹ departed in peace.

Another bathe² before breakfast- this camp is getting amazingly energetic.

Too hot to do much: mainly lazing about in the sun all day.

Test passing.³

Many sun scorched backs at night.

Editorial Comments for 12th July 1937

1. District Commissioner H. W. Butter returned to Greenock in his car.
2. See note 2 for the 5th July regarding bathing.
3. A list of tests passed throughout Summer Camp is provided at the start of the logbook account.

Tuesday. 13th July 1937

Dull but dry. Up early and bathed¹.

Tests passed in forenoon².

After dinner, J.B.H. and E.S.³ cycled to Blair Castle⁴ and back to Pitlochry to meet some others for the flics⁵. Home in rain.

Editorial Comments for 13th July 1937

1. See note 2 for the 5th July regarding bathing.
2. A list of tests passed throughout Summer Camp is provided at the start of the log book account.
3. Ian Hardie and Eoin Steel.
4. Blair Atholl Castle is the ancestral home of the Clan Murray and the seat of the Duke of Atholl. It is believed that the castle dates back to 1275 and over the years has witnessed such visitors as Bonnie Prince Charlie, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. The Castle was opened to the public for the first time in 1936 with Ian Dunlop, Rev Reid, Commander Preston and Archie Brown visiting that year. However, they drove rather than cycled. The route taken to Blair Atholl was along the old A9 which went through Pitlochry. The A9 has been upgraded since then, but the original A9 still exists between Pitlochry and Blair Atholl. It is now labelled the B8079. There is also a stretch of the old A9 (marked as a yellow road on current OS maps) that can be followed south of Pitlochry, and which runs parallel to the current A9 before it joins up with the dual carriageway approximately half way between Pitlochry and Ballinluig.
5. Another visit to Pitlochry Cinema.



Wednesday. 14th July 1937

Rain early but cleared later: so, we were late in rising: breakfast about 9. 30.

Games, tests¹ and walks. Bathed² several times and in evening, A.I.D. & R.L.³ went for a cycle run to Aberfeldy⁴ and Falls of Tummel⁵ where the former had a smash and had to leave his cycle in Pitlochry to be repaired⁶. After a funeral service for the deceased cycle, the camp dispersed to bed.

Editorial Comments for 14th July 1937

1. A list of tests passed throughout Summer Camp is provided at the start of the log book account.
2. See note 2 for the 5th July regarding bathing.
3. Ian Dunlop and Richard Leggat.
4. The distance to Aberfeldy is about 10 miles. However, it is not known which route they took to get to the Falls of Tummel. They probably returned the way they came then cycled north along the road on the west of the River Tummel to the Falls. Another possibility would have been to cycle to the Falls via Loch Tummel, but this is a longer route and seems unlikely, given that they started in the evening.
5. The Falls of Tummel are also known as the Linn of Tummel or the Giant's Steps. They are on the River Tummel just before it merges with the River Garry.
6. It is not revealed whether the cycle was repaired or not.



Falls of Tummel



Possible Cycle route taken (red dots)

Thursday 15th July 1937

A fine day. Being the last day in camp, was spent in last bathes¹, sunbathes, walks etc. Nothing of note except that the Harvey brothers² left camp one day early.

Editorial Comments for 15th July 1937

1. See note 2 for the 5th July regarding bathing.
2. Lawrence and Tennant Harvey.
3. Possibly they were picked up from the camp by their parents to go on a family holiday. However, it's just as possible that they had to travel back to Greenock to meet up with their parents there.

Friday. 16th July 1937

Cleared up campsite and got tents down: washed and packed and left on new farm lorry - a 30 h.p. Leyland¹ for station to catch the 1.54. Home to Greenock 6.30.²

Editorial Comments for 16th July 1937

1. This might have been the 30 cwt 26.2 h.p. Leyland lorry which was introduced in 1936 (see below)

2 The same travel arrangements described in getting to camp were followed in reverse.



Possible model of lorry described in the Log book report.

Finnart Church Report

Finnart Scouts in Camp.

The Finnart Scout camp was held this year again in Ballinluig in Perthshire and there were 16 campers. Now, anyone who took a holiday in this country during the first week of July does not require to be told that the weather during that week was not good. We had two dry mornings and two dry evenings, but we were very thankful to have the tents up and be settled into our quarters before the rain began. The boys were in good spirits nevertheless, and it is in such circumstances as these that they show themselves "Scouts". They donned Scout hats¹, waterproof capes² and sandshoes³, and took walks and enjoyed games in camp- between meals. Meals are of course very important items of camp news, and the boys, indeed all of us, did full justice to the really good things provided, not to speak of the varied and comprehensive parcels⁴ which arrived from time to time.

Things improved considerably during the second week and when Tay and Tummel were not in any danger of encroaching on the site, the sun got its way, and our ideally situated Camp was the scene of much merriment and joy which comes from life in the open air.

We had visits from our own Commissioner, who spent a weekend with us, and also from Lord James Stewart Murray⁵, County Commissioner for Perthshire who came to inspect us as a visiting Troop.

Some of the boys went to see Blair Castle⁶, and some to Aberfeldy by bicycle⁷. Organised games, rugby⁸, and bathing in the Tay, all helped to occupy our time and contributed to a most enjoyable holiday.

Each morning, the Union Jack was broken on the Flagstaff and then there were prayers. One Sunday, a service was held in camp, and on the other, the Troop paraded to Logierait Church, where Dr. Coll Macdonald⁹ preached the sermon.

It was one of the best camps that any of the Scouts had attended.

A. Ian Dunlop.

Editorial Comments for Finnart Church Report

- 1. The broad-rimmed Scout hat of the era was particularly good in heavy rain as it prevented the water running down one's neck. It was less good in strong winds though.*
- 2. Bicycle capes were usually very waterproof and had the advantage over oilskins as you were less likely to get soaked by perspiration building up on the inside.*
- 3. Sandshoes were usually worn in camp with no socks. It meant your feet always got wet, but that was acceptable as long as it was reasonably warm.*
- 4. Parents and grandparents often posted food parcels to Scouts at Summer Camp. They were always received with delight.*

5. During the 1030s, it was common for important members of the aristocracy to be appointed as County Commissioners or other roles within Scouting. Lord James Stewart-Murray



was the 8th Duke of Atholl (1871-1942). He was educated at Eton and was fluent Gaelic speaker. He was commissioned in the Royal Horse Guards and served in Kitchener's expedition to the Sudan fighting at the Siege of Khartoum and the Battle of Atbara. He gained the DSO during the campaign and was promoted to Captain. He also served in the Boer War and raised a regiment of Scotsmen living in South Africa. In the 1st World War, he fought in the Dardanelles Campaign and had the rank of brigadier general by the end of the war. During the Second World War he served in the Home Guard. His full title was Brigadier-General His Grace, The Duke of Atholl, KT, GCVO, CB, DSO, PC. He also had a political career and was the MP for West Perthshire until 1917. In 1918, he was made a Knight of the Order of the Thistle. He also served as Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland until 1920, and in 1921 he joined the Privy Council. Between 1920-1931, he was Aide-de-Camp to King George V, and he was granted the Freedom of the City of Edinburgh.

6. The Troop Log indicates that only Ian Hardie and Eoin Steel visited Blair Atholl Castle after cycling there from camp.

7. The Troop Log indicates that only Ian Dunlop and Richard Leggat cycled to Aberfoyle.

8. The Troop Log identified 'American Rugby'. Which suggests that a version of American football was played.

9. The Rev Coll A. MacDonald (1873-1954) was born in Iona and was parish minister of Logierait for 33 years (1913-46). He served as an army chaplain during the 1st World War. After his death, his ashes were returned to Iona.

Appendix

Scouting Personalities

Butter, H. Waller

H. Waller Butter took over from Hector Russell as Greenock's District Commissioner during 1933 at a time when numbers were strong, but the local Scout Association's financial strength was weak. Mr. Butter played a key role in turning that situation around, such that the District ended up on a firm financial and administrative footing. In 1941, Mr. Butter was called up to serve in the navy. As a result, James Swan stepped in as Acting D.C. during the years that Mr. Butter was on war service in Norway and Germany. Mr. Butter returned from the war in 1945 and took on the role of D.C. once more. However, work pressures forced him to resign a year later, with Jim Swan officially taking over as D.C.

Brown, Archie

Archie Brown (a different Archie Brown from Rover Scout Archie Brown) was born in 1924 and was in the same class at Greenock Academy as Sandy Campbell and Jim Crawford. He lived at 40 Eldon Street, then 183 Finnart Street, and his father owned a couple of Baker's shops in Greenock. There is convincing evidence of Archie joining the troop in October 1934 and he attended the 70th's Summer Camps held in 1935 and 1937. He was promoted to S.P.L. of the Curlew Patrol in March 1937, then to P.L. of the Curlew Patrol in February 1938. In September 1938, he was appointed the P.L. of a new Patrol (the Owl Patrol). There is no further mention of this Patrol in the available records, and it might have been a temporary Patrol made up of older Scouts. Archie gained his 2nd Class Badge very quickly in May 1935, but it is not known whether he completed his 1st Class Badge. It is not known when Archie left the troop, or what he did during the war. After the war, he became a teacher at Ardrossan Academy.

Campbell, Alexander (Wee Sandy)

Sandy was born in 1924 and was in the troop from 1934 to 1939. His father (William) was a marine engineer who lived at 52 Fox Street from 1937 onwards. When Sandy first joined the Troop, he was placed in the Curlew Patrol with Eoin Steel as his Patrol Leader. He then joined the Wolf in May 1937 and remained in that Patrol until 1940, with Archie Stalker then Harold Hastie as PLs. Sandy gained his Tenderfoot and 2nd Class Badges during his time in the 70th but it is not known whether he gained his 1st Class Badge or any Proficiency Badges. However, there is plenty of evidence to show that he was an outdoors enthusiast as he attended several weekend camps and two summer camps held in 1935 and 1937. He was also a member of the 70th Patrol that lifted the Shannon Cup in 1935. Sandy also appears to have been a keen walker. He climbed Ben Vrackie near Pitlochry during the 1937 Summer Camp and in March 1940, he participated in a walk to Everton to do tracking, signalling and fire lighting. Sandy was never promoted but he was extremely popular and committed to his Scouting. It is likely that he resigned from the Troop after the summer of 1940 as he was scheduled to go to sea. However, during the months he was waiting for a ship, he continued to attend Troop Meetings as an unofficial ASM. In December 1940, he offered to pay the annual subscription, but the Court of Honour turned down his offer. Therefore, Sandy donated the money to the Group to pay for the Troop's Xmas party. Sandy was always known as 'wee Sandy' since he was small for his age. He came from a seafaring family, and his father was a chief engineer, so it was natural that he wanted to go to sea. He joined the British India Steam Navigation Company in 1940 as a cadet at the age of 16. Normally, he would have gone to cadet school, but many of these were closed at the beginning of the war. He received lots of going-away presents and was so delighted with them that he insisted on taking the lot with him on his ship. Unfortunately, his ship was torpedoed (possibly in the Indian Ocean) and he lost the lot! Fortunately, Sandy was rescued and he continued serving in the merchant navy for many years until he became a captain and moved to the Clan line for the rest of his career. He played a squeeze box which would have been good entertainment on ship. In his retirement, he lived in Sandbank, meeting frequently with Wilson Hill. Sandy Campbell is in the 1937 group photograph and several other photos including those from the 1935 Summer Camp, a Jubilee Camp held at Everton in 1935 and the Shannon Cup of 1935. The last photo certainly emphasises his lack of height!

Clark, Victor J.

Victor John Clark was born in Greenock in 1924 and is remembered by contemporaries as being a nice chap who had a good model railway in his house! He lived in Brougham Street and went to Greenock Academy where he featured at the 1936 Sports Days by winning the sack bumping event for the Senior 1 age group – an indication of his physique. He joined the troop in 1935 when he was 11 and attended the 1935 and 1937 summer camps. He also appears in the 1937 group photograph. He was never promoted and seemed to have little interest in badgework or promotion. However, he comes across as a principled individual who was genuinely committed to the Scout Law and Promise and identified the Scouting ethos as an important factor in the spiritual and physical development of young people. This may well have been a crucial factor in him restarting the 70th Scout Troop after the war when it had been temporarily merged with the 59th. If that had not happened, this web site would not exist.

During the war, Victor was due to join the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards but succumbed to tuberculosis. Since there was no effective treatment at the time, he spent three years recuperating. When he returned to Greenock in 1946, he restarted the 70th, building it up into one of the strongest groups in Greenock. In 1952, he married a German girl and the Scouts put on a Guard of Honour for the occasion. The troop continued to thrive and eventually the DC asked Victor to do a similar job of building up the 75th Scouts at the Old West Kirk, which he duly did.

Victor was a timekeeper at Scotts shipbuilding engineering company where he was responsible for clocking people in and out of work and for looking after timesheets. When he retired, he moved to Wales.

Dunlop, Alexander Ian

Alexander Ian Dunlop was the son of the head teacher of mathematics at Greenock Academy and lived at 52 Eldon Street (renumbered to 96 in 1936-37) with his parents. In 1933, he started studying for an MA in Divinity at Glasgow University, where he met Ian Hardie who was doing the same course. In 1934, Ian joined the 70th as an A.S.M. at the age of 18. However, it is not known whether he had previous Scouting experience. When Sam Faulds resigned, the two 'Ians' ran the Troop as A.S.M.s until March 1936. At that point, Ian Dunlop became G.S.M. and Ian Hastie became S.M., both now aged 20. Although Ian was G.S.M., he was very active with the troop, and 'Ian's talk'

was a regular occurrence at campfires. Ian remained as G.S.M. until November 1939 when he had to move to Lochgilphead on war service. Nevertheless, he remained in contact with the Group as a Rover Scout and Rover Scout Leader for several years. During the 1930s, Ian also played a very active role in District matters. He was the Secretary for the District Executive and served on numerous sub committees. Ian finished his MA degree in 1937 and his BD in 1938. It is believed that he was a navy chaplain during the war and might have been mentioned in dispatches. After the war, he served in a number of churches in London, Lochgilphead and Edinburgh. In 1954, he gave the address at the church service held to commemorate the 70th 21st Anniversary. He was also present at the 50th anniversary in 1992.

Grant, Ronald

Ronald Grant was born in 1920 or 1921 and was the only son of Bryce Grant, the dentist. He lived at 13 Kelly Street and was one of the founder members who joined when the Troop started up in 1932. He was Patrol Second of the Woodpigeon Patrol in 1933 and attended the 70th's first Summer Camp held that year. He also attended most of the weekend camps that were organized including training camps for the Shannon Cup Competition of 1935 where he was Patrol Second of the 70th Patrol which won that year. He also ran one of the two 70th Patrols attending the District weekend camp which had been organized to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of King George. As well as being present at the 70th's first Summer Camp, he also attended the 70th's last Summer Camp of the thirties at Ballinluig in 1937. Ronald was also a very good swimmer and was a member of the 70th teams that won the Victory Trophy two years running in 1935 and 1936. Ronald was promoted to P.L. of the Woodpigeon Patrol in June 1935 and remained its P.L. until September 1938. As far as badgework was concerned, he certainly gained his Tenderfoot and 2nd Class Badges. He also passed his 1st Class hike, but it is not known whether he completed the badge itself. It is known that he gained at least two proficiency badges. During the war, he served as a paratrooper and reached the rank of regimental sergeant major. After the war, he worked with Balfour Beattie.

Hardie, Ian

Ian/John Hardie lived at 23 Union Street and was on the same divinity course at Glasgow University as Ian Dunlop. Ian was originally with the 45th Renfrewshire Scouts but joined the 70th as an A.S.M. in 1934 along with Ian Dunlop. In January 1936, Ian was officially appointed as Scoutmaster and ran four summer camps from 1934-1937. He resigned in March 1939. After this, he completed a PhD at Glasgow University, then served in various Greenock Churches. After the war, he emigrated to Canada and became Professor of Old Testament languages at the University of Nova Scotia.

Harvey, Lawrence/Laurence

Lawrence Harvey was born in 1921 and was one of the first Scouts to join the troop during its first year in existence. He was also one of the most successful and enthusiastic Scouts in the troop during the 1930s. Lawrence was originally in the Wolf Patrol but was promoted to Patrol Second of the Woodpigeon Patrol under Ronald Grant in June 1935. In May 1937, he was promoted to P.L. of a new Patrol (the Fox Patrol). Lawrence attended the first 70th Summer Camp in 1933, as well as summer camps in 1935, 1936 and 1937. He also attended a large number of weekend camps. In December 1937, he was the second 70th Scout to gain his Second All Round Cords, indicating that he had gained a dozen proficiency badges. By that time, he had gained his 1st Class Badge and King Scout's Badge (one of only three 70th Scouts to do so during the 1930s). Lawrence was also a member of the 70th teams that won the Shannon Cup and Victory Trophy in 1935. He resigned from the Troop on the 9th September of 1938, but it is not known what he did during the war or afterwards.

Harvey, Tennant

Tennant Harvey was born in 1924 and was the younger brother of Lawrence Harvey. He joined the Wolf Patrol in September 1935 and was still with the Troop in September 1937. However, very little is known about his experiences in the 70th other than he passed some 2nd Class tests and attended the Troop's Summer Camp at Ballinluig in 1937. Tennant left the troop at some point between July 1937 and September 1938.

Kinnell, George

George Kinnell was born in 1925 and probably lived at 6 Brachelston Street. His family owned a dairy. George was a pupil at Greenock Academy and joined the troop in November 1936, to be placed in the Woodpigeon Patrol. He attended the summer camp of 1937 and by 1939 he was in the Wolf Patrol. The following year he was in the Curlew Patrol. It is not known when he left the troop, but it is known that he joined the Merchant Navy as a cadet on the S.S. Denpark from 1941-42. Sadly, the ship was torpedoed in May 1942, and George was not amongst the survivors. He died at the age of 17 and his name used to be on the Roll of Honour at Greenock Academy.

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MacDonald, Rev. Coll A.

The Rev. Coll A. MacDonald (1873-1954) was the minister at Logierait Church when the 70th Scouts attended Sunday morning service during their camps at Ballinluig in 1936 and 1937. The Rev. MacDonald was born in Iona and was parish minister for 33 years. He served as an army chaplain during the 1st World War.

McFarlane, Ian

Ian McFarlane was probably born in 1924. He was a pupil of Greenock Academy, and he lived in Finnart Street. He joined the Curlew Patrol in November 1936 and attended the Summer Camp of 1937. He also passed his Tenderfoot Badge and passed a number of 2nd Class tests. However, nothing else is known about him and he left the troop at some point between November 1937 and September 1938.

MacKenzie, Duncan (II)

Duncan MacKenzie was probably born in 1923 and lived at Janefield, High Inverkip Road. Duncan attended Greenock Academy and joined the troop during October 1935 along with Jim Tosh. He was invested in November 1935 and by May 1937, he was 2nd Scout in the Wood Pigeon Patrol with Ronald Grant as his PL. It is not known whether he gained the 2nd Class Badge or how many Proficiency Badges he gained. In terms of outdoor Scouting, he attended a day's hike to Everton during April 1936. He did not attend the Troop's Summer Camp at Ballinluig that year, but he was present at the 1937 Summer Camp to the same campsite. He is also present in the Group Photograph taken in September 1937. By September 1938, he was 1st Scout in the Woodpigeon Patrol with Richard Leggett as his PL. In 1939, he was still in the Woodpigeon patrol and won the GSM's cup for knotting skills – the third Scout to win the Cup since it had been introduced. However, he had a 'barney' at a Troop Meeting in the autumn which saw him forcibly ejected from the meeting! He did not turn up to Troop meetings after that and so he was taken off the roll. This caused the COH some consternation since Duncan still held the GSM's Cup. There were various discussions on how to get it back, then to everyone's surprise, Duncan appeared in uniform at a troop meeting on the 8th March 1940. This caused the COH to hastily meet at the end of the meeting and Duncan was put on 'probation'. He attended regularly for the next month and helped with paper collections. As a result, he was put back on the troop roll. In May 1940, he won the GSM's cup again, this time for pioneering skills! He finally resigned on 11th October 1940 and once again there was much gnashing of teeth on how to recover the cup. Duncan had an older brother in the army, but it is not known whether Duncan joined the forces or not. He owned a jewellery shop in Greenock.

Munro, Ian T.

Ian Munro lived in Kelly Street and was probably born in 1923 or 1924. He attended Greenock Academy and featured in several school sports days and prize givings. He also won a William Millar Scholarship for academic studies. It is not known when he joined the Troop but he was present at the Summer Camps of 1935 and 1937. Unusually, he was not promoted to S.P.L. but was promoted from Scout to P.L. of the Curlew Patrol in September 1938. He then remained P.L. of the Curlews for the next 3 years. It is not known how far through the Scout Training Scheme he progressed, but he may well have gained his 1st Class Badge as he completed a 1st Class journey to Arrochar by bicycle with Nicol Smith in March 1940. He also gained a reputation as being an experienced 'camper'. He resigned from the Troop in September 1941 and was in the army Engineers during the war. After the war, he became a civil engineer and moved to Canada.

Munro, Mrs.

Mother of Ian Munro visited the campsite. Might be in the middle if the order of names is to be believed

Murray, Lord James

During the 1930s, it was common for important members of the aristocracy to be appointed as County Commissioners or other roles within Scouting. Lord James Stewart-Murray was the 8th Duke of Atholl (1871-1942). He was educated at Eton and was a fluent Gaelic speaker. He was commissioned in the Royal Horse Guards and served in Kitchener's expedition to the Sudan fighting at the Siege of Khartoum and the Battle of Atbara. He gained the DSO during the campaign and was promoted to Captain. He also served in the Boer War and raised a regiment of Scotsmen living in South Africa. In the 1st World War, he fought in the Dardanelles Campaign and had the rank of brigadier general by the end of the war. During the Second World War he served in the Home Guard. His full title was Brigadier-General His Grace, The Duke of Atholl, KT, GCVO, CB, DSO, PC. He also had a political career and was the MP for West Perthshire until 1917. In 1918, he was made a Knight of the Order of the Thistle. He also served as Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland until 1920, and in 1921, he joined the Privy Council. Between 1920-1931, he was Aide-de-Camp to King George V, and he was granted the Freedom of the City of Edinburgh.

Smith, J. Nicol

Nicol Smith was born in Glasgow during 1924. He lived in Brisbane Street when he was in the Scouts, and his father was associated with Kennedy and Co. Monumental Sculptors. Nicol was a pupil in Greenock Academy and did well at both sport and academic studies. He joined the Scouts in February 1935 and attended the Summer Camp of 1937. In September 1938 he was promoted to become SPL of the Curlew Patrol, replacing Alistair McGregor who had moved to the Wolf Patrol. Nicol gained his 2nd Class Badge a year after joining the 70th and may well have gained his 1st Class Badge as he completed the 1st Class journey with Ian Munro by cycling to Arrochar. He resigned in September 1940 and served in the Armoured Corps during the war. He fought in NW Europe and lost a foot and part of his leg when his tank triggered a mine. After the war, Nicol gained a degree in electrical engineering and worked with a firm called Lucas. However, he died quite young, possibly as a result of his wounds.

Steel Ian/Eoin

Eoin Steel lived at 39 Margaret Street and had four brothers and one daughter. The Steel family was a strong supporter of the early troop in a number of ways. Eoin, himself, may well have been one of the 'founder members' of the fledgling Troop, and probably had previous Scouting experience with another troop. He was a close friend of Alan Hardie, who played a key part in persuading Eoin to join the 70th. Since Alan had been in the 5th Scouts, this suggests that Eoin may also have been in the 5th. Eoin may well have been one of the first PLs to be appointed in the 70th. He remained PL of the Wolf Patrol then the Curlew Patrol until 1936, at which point he was appointed Troop Leader. Eoin led a patrol in the County Flag of 1936 and was a member of the 70th team that won the Victory Trophy in the same year. In September 1937, he resigned to join the Rovers but returned to the troop as an A.S.M in early 1938. When Ian Dunlop resigned in November 1939, Eoin and Wilson Hill ran the troop until Eoin was called up in January 1940. Eoin served in the RAF as ground crew or administration. In 1954, he read a lesson at the church service marking the 21st anniversary of the troop.

Steel, Hamish

Hamish Steel was born in 1924 and was one of Eoin Steel's younger brothers. He joined the troop in January 1936 and attended the Troop's Summer Camps of 1936 and 1937. By October 1939, he was in the Woodpigeon Patrol but left the troop in the following month. It is

thought that he might have served in the navy during the war. After the war he went to university but suffered from depression. Sadly, he committed suicide in 1948, aged 23.