

# **Introduction to the Troop Log account of the Ballinluig Summer Camp (1936)**

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

## **Introduction**

This document provides a transcript of the account of the Ballinluig Summer Camp (1936) 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 16<sup>th</sup> 1936. Camp at Ballinluig - Perthshire.

10 members of Group including 2 officers, 1 Rover.

Those present<sup>1</sup>:-

A.I. Dunlop	G.S.M. in charge
J.B. Hardie	S.M.
A. Brown	R.S.
A. Hardie	T.L.
E. Steel	P.L.
L. Harvey	S.P.L.
R. Leggat	
H. Steel	
D. Ramsay	
A. Allan	

Visit by Rev. A.R.R. Reid<sup>2</sup> for 3 days.

### **Editorial Comments**

**1.** *The full names of those present were Ian Dunlop, John (Ian) Hardie, Archie Brown, Alan Hardie, Eoin Steel, Lawrence Harvey, Richard (Dick) Leggat, Hamish Steel, David Ramsay, Alistair Allan and the Rev. A.R.R. Reid.*

**2.** *This was the last visit that the Rev. Reid made to a 70<sup>th</sup> Summer Camp as he was departing to be minister of Belmont Church.*

**Thursday 2/7/36**

Left Greenock, Princes Pier Station<sup>1</sup> by 8.18 a.m. for Glasgow. Left Buchanan Street<sup>2</sup> by 10.10 and, changing at Perth<sup>3</sup>, arrived at Ballinluig<sup>4</sup> about 1p.m. A lorry<sup>5</sup> took kit and campers to a fine site near the junction of the Rivers Tay and Tummel<sup>6</sup>. Camp was pitched and the rest of the day spent in exploring the immediate vicinity of the camp.



*Campsite between Rivers Tay and Tummel*



*Looking up to Logierait Village and the Mill<sup>6</sup>*

### **Editorial Comments for 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1936**

1. Princes Pier Station was the Greenock terminus for the railway line that went to Glasgow via Port Glasgow, Bridge of Weir, Kilmacolm and Paisley. The line terminated in Glasgow at St. Enoch's Station. Princes Pier Station closed to scheduled passenger services in 1959 but remained open for boat trains until 1965, and freight until 1966. The station was demolished in 1967. St. Enoch's Railway Station was also closed in 1966 but was not demolished until 1977.



*Princes Pier Railway Station*



*St. Enoch's Railway Station*

2. The Scouts would have had to transport their personal and camping gear from St. Enoch's Station to Buchanan Street Station – a distance of about 1 mile. Probably, transport was readily available to do that – possibly lorries, trams or buses. Buchanan Street Railway Station closed in 1966 as a result of the Beeching Cuts, and all its railway services were transferred to Queen Street Station.

3. Changing trains at Perth would have involved changing platforms and carting all the camping equipment while doing so. Perth is the only one of the railway stations used in 1936 that is still open.

4. The Scouts disembarked from the Inverness train at Ballinluig Station. In 1936, Ballinluig Station was important as passengers could disembark in order to catch a train to Aberfeldy. The station closed in 1965, along with the line to Aberfeldy.

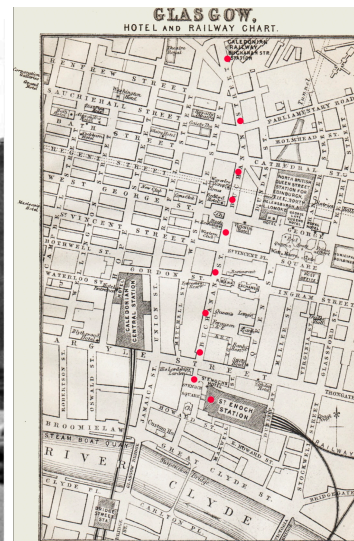
5. It is likely that the lorry was booked in advance. It's not known whether the lorry was linked to the station or hired from a farm or a local firm. Coal lorries in particular were often available for hire during the summer months.

6. The campsite still exists and was visited on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026. It was located on the banks of the River Tay and was close to the Mill of Logierait and the adjoining farm. According to local sources, the farm was occupied by tenant farmers during the Second World War - a brother and sister by the name of McClaren. Although one cannot be certain, it is possible that the McClarens were also the tenant farmers in 1936. If so, it is believed that they would have had a favourable attitude to Scouts camping in the area. During the war, they took in a child evacuee from a family of 17 living in the Gorbals of Glasgow. It is unlikely that Scout camps took place during the war. Indeed, it is believed that the Royal Artillery may have taken over the area for a training camp.

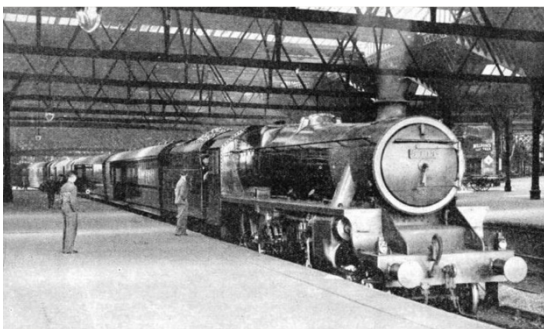
The Mill was a three-storey stone building that was built during the 19<sup>th</sup> century and served as a watermill to grind grain. It was powered by a man-made channel of water that flowed from the River Tummel to the River Tay across the peninsula – visible on the 1930's 1" to the mile map below. The waterway is not marked on the current 1:50:000 map but is shown on the 1:25000 map.



Buchanan Street Railway Station



Map of Glasgow stations



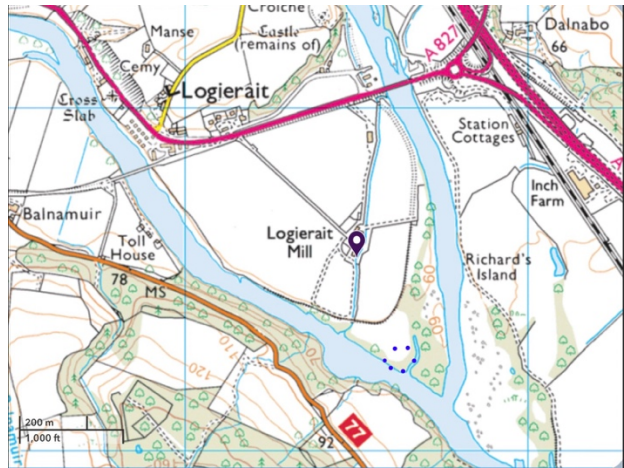
Perth General Station



Ballinluig Railway Station

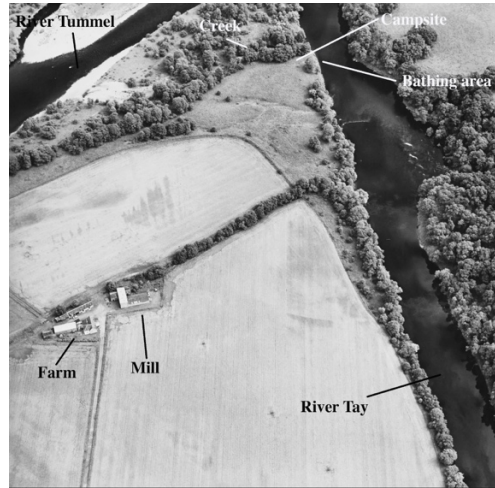


*Ordnance Survey Map from the 1930s*



*Current-day 1:25000 map*

*Both maps show the location of the campsite with blue dots.*



*Current-day aerial views of the campsite.*

## **Friday 3/7/36**

Cooks<sup>1</sup> were called at 7 a.m. and camp rose at 8.00 for flag-break and breakfast. The weather was glorious and the morning was spent in bathing and sun-bathing. After dinner<sup>2</sup>, everyone except the G.S.M.<sup>3</sup> walked up one side<sup>4</sup> of River Tay, crossed by the Logierait Bridge<sup>5</sup> and scrambled down the other side, floating logs<sup>6</sup> down the current in true lumberjack style. The hikers then had to swim across the river, carrying their clothes as best they could. Result:- many wet shirts. After tea, an attempt was made to bring the remaining clothes across in a dixie, but the result was unfortunately damp. Cricket<sup>7</sup> was played until the ball was lost at supper time. Bed at 10.30 p.m.

### **Editorial Comments for 3rd July 1936**

1. Unlike the previous summer camp where central cooking was carried out involving two Scouts cooking for the rest of the camp, the Scouts were paired up, and each pair of Scouts cooked their own meals throughout the camp.

2. 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.

3. Group Scout Master Ian Dunlop.

4. The east side of the river for about a mile.

5. The Logierait Bridge carried the single line railway from Ballinluig to Aberfeldy across the River Tay. It still exists and was preserved by the local community.

6. It is likely that the logs collected were used for various pioneering projects.

Three logs were certainly used for the construction of a diving platform and other logs were used to construct a raft (see Saturday).

7. Most if not all of the 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts were pupils at Greenock Academy where cricket was the major team game played by boys during the Spring and Summer months. However, it is not known whether cricket played at this camp was conventional cricket or non-stop cricket. This may have been the only game of cricket played at camp given that the ball was lost – probably hit into the River Tay.



## **Saturday 4/7/36.**

Cooks were called at 7.30 and camp at 8.15 a.m. for breakfast.

Bathing and sun-bathing till dinner.

After a period of post-prandial repose<sup>1</sup>, the intrepid lumbermen of the day before again crossed the river and brought down logs to the camp, subsequently swimming across with clothes on their heads. This method of transport proved very successful.

After tea, a raft was built, lashed, and launched. However, it refused to support even the lightest of weights<sup>2</sup>.

Supper, flag down, and bed.

### **Editorial Comments for 4th July 1936**

1. Post-prandial repose = after dinner rest.

2. It would either have sunk under the weight or capsized. This was a common problem and rafts only worked well if some buoyancy was attached in the shape of empty oil cans or empty water carriers.

### ***Sunday 5/7/36***

This being Sunday, cooks were not called till 9.30 and camp at 10 a.m. Breakfast was eaten and camp cleared up before the Scout's Own Service<sup>1</sup> was held.

After Service, visitors arrived<sup>2</sup> and were entertained to dinner.<sup>3</sup>

After their departure, the camp bathed and sun-bathed till tea and afterwards walked down in batches to the junction of the rivers about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile away.

Supper and bed.

#### **Editorial Comments for 5th July 1936**

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. Sunday became the traditional day for parents to visit the camp.

3. In later years, the parents took their sons out of camp for a meal in town. The Scouts involved were required to wear Scout uniform when out of camp.

### ***Monday 6/7/36***

The morning was unpromising with a drizzle of rain, so it was decided to let the camp sleep late. Cooks were called at 9 and camp at 10 a.m. By the time breakfast was over, the weather had cleared and the morning was spent as usual in bathing and sun-bathing.

It was then discovered that with two exceptions<sup>1</sup> the whole camp could swim well and many of our original qualms about bathing in a swift river were removed, although no bathing ever took place without pickets being posted.<sup>2</sup>

The Rev. A.R.R. Reid<sup>23</sup> came this morning for a 3-day visit. After dinner, the sun having disappeared, the boys decided it was time to write home so went to the village for post-cards and did not return till tea-time.

Then the rain came on for a short time, but when it cleared, the younger members went for a walk towards Dunkeld<sup>4</sup> while the others started to construct a diving board or platform on the bank of the river. This engineering feat was constructed as shown *below*.

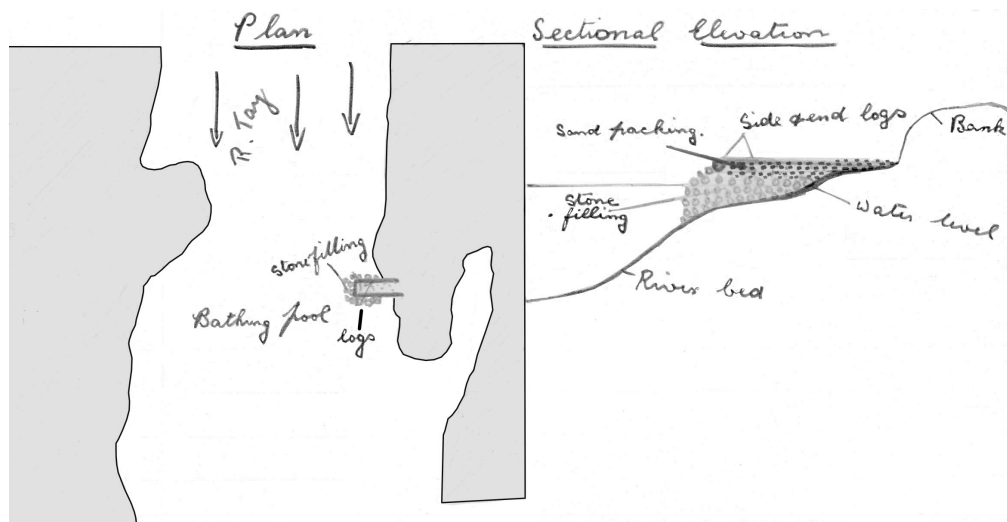
Supper and bed.

N.B.

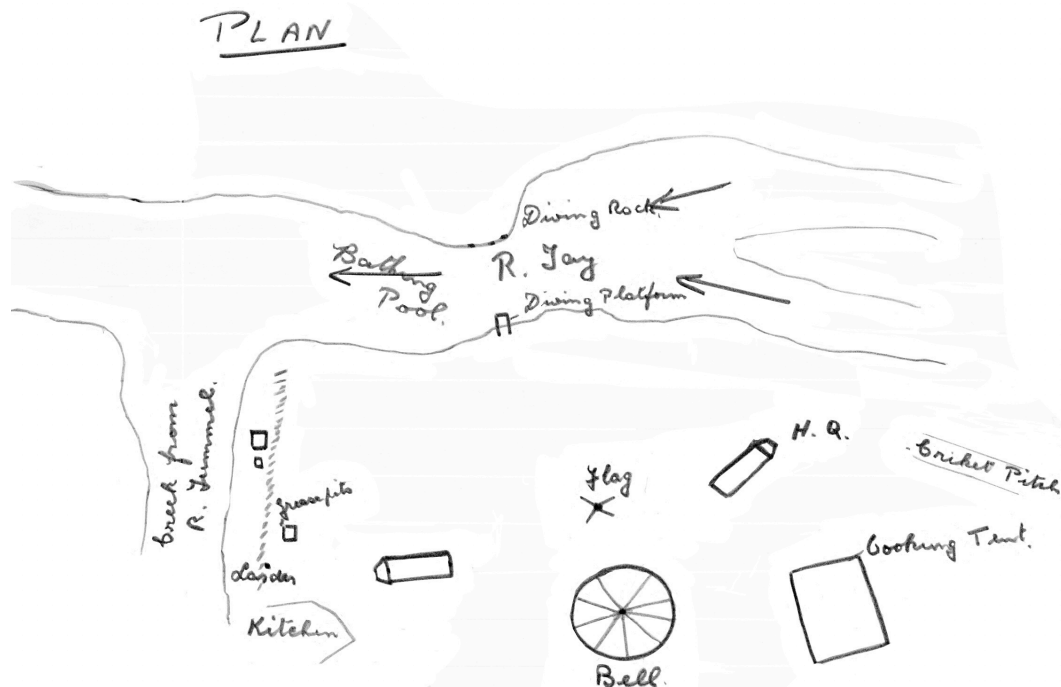
In the diving platform, three logs were laid to form a rectangle on a filling of stones and then the level was raised by means of a packing of sand.



L.Harvey. J.B.Hardie, D.Leggat. D.Ramsay. H.Steel.



Overhead and cross-sectional plans of the diving platform.<sup>5</sup>



Plan of the Campsite showing the relative positions of tents etc with respect to the River Tay and the creek<sup>5</sup> from the River Tummel. (Note that the River Tay is flowing from NW to SE)

### Editorial Comments for 6th July 1936

1. It was not revealed who the exceptions were.
2. The River Tummel on the other side of the peninsula flows significantly faster than the River Tay at this point and would have been a very different proposition in terms of bathing.
3. The Rev. Reid had spent three days in camp in 1935. However, this was to be his last visit to Summer Camp, as he moved to Belmont Church fairly soon after Summer Camp.
4. Details were not given. It's not known how far they got or which route they took.
5. It is likely that the 'creek' was an inlet which was only filled with water when the River Tay was running fairly high. A flow of water from the Tummel to the Tay along the creek possibly only occurs when the Tummel is running exceptionally high.

## **Tuesday 7/7/36**

Rain again this morning as camp rose late. Nothing much doing till dinner.

Visit by Commander Preston<sup>1</sup> with his car.

Rev. A.R.R. Reid, Commander Preston, A.I. Dunlop, A. Brown;

By car to Blair Castle<sup>2</sup> for a visit, then into Pitlochry to the pictures<sup>3</sup>.

L. Harvey, R. Leggat, H. Steel, D. Ramsay, A. Allan.

Into Pitlochry by bus and meet other four and go to pictures.

All these picture-fans, it is gratifying to note<sup>4</sup>, missed the last bus and had to walk 5 miles home<sup>5</sup> for their supper and bed.

### **Editorial Comments for 7th July 1936**

1. Commander Preston's name cropped up a number of times during the 1935-36 Scout Year, and it appears that he has some sort of connection with the 70<sup>th</sup> Group. Unfortunately, nothing is known Commander Preston or what his connection with the 70<sup>th</sup> was. One possibility is that he had a son in the newly formed Wolf Cub Pack. However, there is no mention of him either in the available records. Another possibility is that he may have been instructing the Scouts on certain Scouting activities such as signalling.

2. 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 visit to the Castle by Ian Dunlop and co was significant as the Castle was opened to the public for the first time in 1936. The recent opening of the Castle may well have inspired the foursome to make a visit. 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.



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. Presumably written in jest by Ian Hardie.

5. It's not recorded whether they followed the old A9 back to camp or took the road on the opposite bank of the River Tummel. Both were equally feasible.

## **Wednesday 8/7/36**

Camp rose 8.30 and sunbathed till dinner time.

As it rained for the remainder of the day, nothing much was done by anyone.

Bed early.

### **Thursday 9/7/36**

Fine weather returned. Before breakfast at 9.00 a.m., A.R.R.R.<sup>1</sup>, L. Harvey & R. Leggat actually bathed.

A.R.R.R. departed by 9.30 train.

Camp bathed and sunbathed all day with intervals for meals.

In the evening, E. Steel, A. Hardie and J.B.H went to Pitlochry to the pictures securing a lift home in a private car.<sup>2</sup>

### **Editorial Comments for 9th July 1936**

1. *The Reverend A.R.R. Reid, minister of Finnart Church.*

2. *As the trio were almost certainly in Scout uniform, it is likely that they were offered a lift by someone they met in Pitlochry.*

### **Friday 10/7/36**

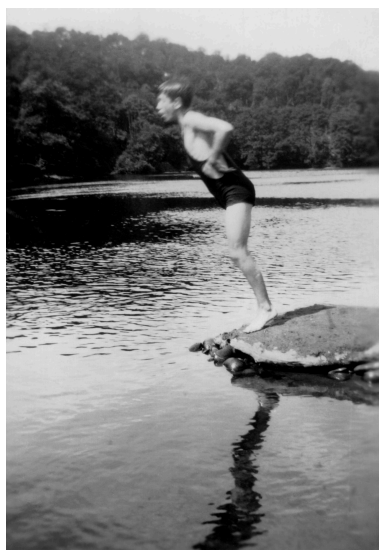
Camp did not rise till 9.45 a.m. on a fine morning.

Usual bathing and sunbathing till tea with an interval for dinner. All except E.S, A.H. and J.B.H., again went to Pitlochry to the flics and again had to walk home. Meanwhile, A.H. caught a  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. trout in the river: an excellent fish which was cooked for supper for a limited number.<sup>1</sup>

### **Diving Displays (Unconscius)<sup>2</sup>**



R.Leggat<sup>3</sup>



R.Leggat



Rev.A.R.R.Reid, A.Allan , R.Leggat, L.Harvey, D.Ramsay

J.B.Hardie

**Editorial Comments for 10th July 1936**

1. *This was one of Alan Hardie's favourite memories of his time in Scouting and he considered it his main highlight of the 1936 Summer Camp.*
2. *Presumably this means that the divers were unaware that they were being photographed.*
3. *Richard (Dick) Leggat was a member of the 70<sup>th</sup>'s winning team in the Victory Trophy that year.*

**Saturday 11/7/36**

Weather wet and cold all day. Nothing of note occurred.

**Sunday 12/7/36**

Camp went to church in Logierait<sup>1</sup> in morning leaving A. Brown to make dinner. Preacher Rev. Coll A. MacDonald<sup>2</sup>. A nice service and a good sermon.

After dinner, a Mock Trial<sup>3</sup> was held in the Bell tent:

Accused:-		D. Ramsay.
Charge:-		“Poaching a salmon from the River Tay.”
Counsel:-	For Defence	A. Brown
	Crown	J.B. Hardie.
Judge:-		A.I. Dunlop.
Clerk of Court:-		A. Hardie.

Erudite and eloquent periods thundered across the tent (court) as counsel addressed witnesses, judge, one another and the general public; The judge was prosy, rhetorical and learned; the witnesses were in despair; the clerk was inarticulate; in fact, it was a typical Mock Trial thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Supper and bed.

### Editorial Comments for 12th July 1936

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.



Mortsafes



Pictish Stone

2. The Minister was the Rev Coll A. MacDonald (1873-1954) who was born in Iona and was parish minister of Logierait Church for 33 years (1913-46). He served as an army chaplain during the 1st World War. Coll (a MacDonald) married a Campbell and had four sons. After his death in 1954, his ashes were spread in Iona.

3. Mock Trials appear to have been particularly popular during the 1930s and this is indicated by the level of detail included in the troop log. Whereas most other activities are identified but not described, the Mock Trial is described in detail. The Mock Trial involved a Scout being charged with a fictitious crime and the Counsel for the Crown inventing evidence to prove their case – the wackier the better. No doubt there was a lot of over acting, and the jury would base their verdict on how well the Counsels for the Defence and the Accused stated their case. This sort of activity was ideal for a bad weather day. At least three Mock trials took place during the 1930s, two of which were at Summer Camps. Baden Powell suggested mock trials as a fun way of providing Scouts with opportunities to speak in front of others and to gain self confidence in doing so.

## Monday 13/7/36

Slight rain most of the day hindered any concerted activities but E.S., A.H., and J.B.H.<sup>1</sup> walked nearly to Dunkeld in afternoon<sup>2</sup>.

Camp was visited in evening by Lord James Murray<sup>3</sup>, C.C. for Perthshire.

### Editorial Comments for 13th July 1936

1. Eoin Steel, Alan Hardie and Ian Hardie.
2. It is about 8 miles between Ballinluig and Dunkeld and there are roads on either side of the River Tay. It's not known which road was taken though.
3. 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



Commissioners or other roles within Scouting. Lord James Stewart-Murray was the 8<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## Tuesday 14/7/36

Up early to a fine day. Resumption of bathing and sun-bathing all day till after tea.

A.I.D and A.B.<sup>1</sup> visited Pass of Killiecrankie<sup>2</sup> by bicycle in evening. Younger boys went for a walk up river, while E. S., A.H. & J.B.H.<sup>3</sup> repaired the diving platform which had been washed almost away by heavy rain and a high river.

After supper when all the camp was in bed, A. Allan discovered a ghost. Eldritch<sup>4</sup> screams and clanking of chains were heard in various quarters and the horses in the field seemed much disturbed according to the heavy thuds of their hoof beats we heard. The visitation lasted for ten minutes and then ceased. L. Harvey was subsequently discovered to be missing but, later, was found in his bed unable to account for his absence. A disturbed and disturbing evening.<sup>5</sup>

### Editorial Comments for 14th July 1936

1. GSM Ian Dunlop and Rover Scout, Archie Brown.
2. The Pass of Killiecrankie is about 17 miles from Ballinluig, and it would have been perfectly feasible to follow the A9 to get there. The roads were substantially quieter in the 1930s.
3. Eoin Steel, Alan Hardie and Ian Hardie.
4. 'Eldritch' means uncanny, unearthly, and weird in a supernatural way. Ian Hardie had a way with words.
5. Possibly, Lawrence Harvey had been playing a trick on the other campers. Ian Hardie may well have written wrote the log book entry in such a way that the mystery was sustained. But one cannot be sure!



**Wednesday 15/7/36**

Last day in camp was fine. Bathed and sun-bathed all day and went for final walks about the neighbourhood. In the evening, camp kit was cleaned up and a huge camp-fire built. After a very successful sing-song, camp went to bed.

**Thursday 16/7/36**

Tents down. Lorry to station to catch 2.00 train and 5.45 from St. Enoch Station, Glasgow.<sup>1</sup>  
Home 6.30 after a very fine time.



Eoin Steel      Ian B. Hardie  
H. Steel      R. Leggat      L. Harvey      D. Ramsay      Alan Hardie      A. Allan  
*The Campers at Ballinluig (1936). Missing Ian Dunlop and Archie Brown.*

**Editorial Comments for 16th July 1936**

1. The same journey described for the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1936 was carried out, but in reverse. Therefore, the Scouts would have had to catch the train at Ballinluig station, change at Perth for the train to Buchanan Street Station in Glasgow, then catch the train to Princes Pier from St. Enoch Station. This would have been no simple task as they would have been carrying heavy camping equipment with them.

## ***Summary of Summer Camp (1936)***

Altogether a most successful camp in very fine weather.

Usual cooking arrangements of Scouts cooking in pairs<sup>1</sup> supervised by an officer - usually G.S.M.<sup>2</sup> No serious accidents and some great events such as lumbering<sup>3</sup>, building diving platform and raft, and Mock Trial. The bathing was especially good in a first-class pool with just the right amount of current to give excitement.

The farm people<sup>4</sup> were very good to us and everywhere supplying us with everything we needed.

The charge for camp was 30/- but there was a small deficit owing to the small numbers.

The site was really excellent,<sup>5</sup> well situated for everything, and above all, THERE WERE NO MIDGES.<sup>6</sup>

(Signed) J.B. Hardie. S.M.

### **Editorial Comments for Summary**

- 1. The idea of the Scouts cooking in pairs was a relatively recent innovation introduced in the Spring of 1936 and marked a departure from central cooking which had been the standard approach up until then.*
- 2. Group Scout Master Ian Dunlop*
- 3. Presumably, this refers to floating logs down the River Tay to the campsite. It's not explained where the logs were originally obtained though.*
- 4. It is likely that the farm was the one situated next to the Mill of Logierait. It is believed that the tenant farmers at the time might have been a brother and sister (the McClarens). See also note 6 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1936.*
- 5. This was confirmed by the 70<sup>th</sup> choosing to return to the same campsite for the Summer Camp of 1937. Moreover, more Scouts attended in 1937, attesting to positive feedback from those who attended in 1936.*
- 6. This was in sharp contrast to the previous Summer Camp held at St. Catherine's on the shores of Loch Fyne in 1935.*

## ***Greenock Telegraph Report***

### **ON THE BANKS OF THE TAY.**

30th Greenock Scout camp is at Ballinluig, almost 15 miles<sup>1</sup> from Pitlochry, Perthshire, near the junction of rivers Tay and Tummel. The bathing in the river is excellent, and the boys have been dipping every day. They have only had one day of rain, and most of the time has been spent in sunbathing and walking in the surrounding district. The boys also made a raft of logs. On the wet day, a mock trial was arranged, when one of the boys was charged with poaching a salmon from the river. There have been several visitors, including the minister, Rev. A.R.R. Reid, who spent several days with the troop. The boys are certainly enjoying themselves.

### **Editorial Comment**

*A relatively accurate account of the camp which was published when the Scouts were still at camp. The only inaccuracy is the distance between Ballinluig and Pitlochry which was more like 5 miles than 15 miles.*

## Appendix

## Scouting Personalities.

### **Allan, Alistair**

Alistair Allan might have been born in 1924 if he was aged 11 when he joined in November 1935. He attended the 1936 Summer Camp and remained with the troop for 4 years without being promoted. In 1937, he was reported to be in the Wolf Patrol and was still with that patrol in the autumn of 1939 when he transferred to a Gourrock Troop. This suggests that he might have lived in Gourrock and transferred due to the difficulties in travelling to Troop meetings during the black out. He attended Greenock Academy and worked in the Gourrock Ropeworks once he left school.

### **Brown, Archibald**

Archibald Brown was a Rover Scout who may well have been a friend of James Dunne. Like James Dunne, he helped out at the Troop between 1935 to 1937 and was approved as an ASM on the same day in September 1936. Unlike James, Archie attended the Troop's Summer Camp in 1936 and was secretary to the Court of Honour for several months. He resigned from the Group in October 1937 and there were no further entries referring to him. Although Archie Brown is a relatively common name, it is a possibility that Archibald was born in 1917 and was a classmate at Greenock Academy of the Editor's father. If so, it is likely that he was a Scout in the 4<sup>th</sup> Greenock Scout Group, won a William Miller Scholarship at Greenock Academy in 1932 and came first in the Glasgow University Bursary exam of 1935. It is not known what he did during the war or afterwards. However, it is known that he emigrated to Australia where he was a member of the Canberra Country Dancing Society. The Editor met him during 1987-89 but was unaware of his link with the 70<sup>th</sup> at that time.

### **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 70<sup>th</sup> 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 70<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary. He was also present at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1992.

### **Hardie, Alan**

Alan Hardie was the younger brother of Ian/John Hardie's. He was born in August 1919 and lived at 23 Union Street. Alan was in the 5<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire Wolf Cubs and joined the 5<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire Troop in 1930. In 1932, he transferred to the 70<sup>th</sup> as one of its first members. And was promoted to PL of the Woodpigeon Patrol by 1933. It is quite possible that he was one of the first 70<sup>th</sup> PLs to be appointed as there may not have been any PL appointments during the first few months of the troop's existence. In June 1935, Alan became Troop Leader and remained so until November 1936. He was then a Rover Scout for about a year before returning as a warranted ASM's warrant. During his time in the Scouts, Alan successfully completed the Scout progressive training scheme and gained his King's Scout Badge, one of only three 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts to achieve this during the 1930s. He attended the first four of the Troop's Summer Camps from 1933 to 1936 led the 70<sup>th</sup> Patrol that won the Shannon Cup in 1935. He was an excellent swimmer and was a key member of the 70<sup>th</sup> swimming teams that dominated the Scout swimming gala during the 1930s. Alan won the Scout Championship in 1935 and 1936, the Rover Championship in 1937, 1938 & 1939 and also led the 70<sup>th</sup> teams that won the Victory Trophy in 1935 and 1936. By March 1939, he was the longest serving member of the group. Alan was also a member of the territorial army's Royal Engineers and was among the first to be called up following the outbreak of war, serving in Norway, Iceland, Plymouth, North Africa, Italy and Austria until 1947. He became a civil engineer after the war and saw in the new millennium as the last surviving member of the initial 70th troop.

### **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 45<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire Scouts but joined the 70<sup>th</sup> 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 70<sup>th</sup> 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 70<sup>th</sup> Scout to gain his Second All Round Cords, indicating that he had gained a dozen proficiency badges. By that time, he had gained his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge and King Scout's Badge (one of only three 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts to do so during the 1930s). Lawrence was also a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> teams that won the Shannon Cup and Victory Trophy in 1935. He resigned from the Troop on the 9<sup>th</sup> September of 1938, but it is not known what he did during the war or afterwards.

**Leggett, R.W. (Dick)**

Richard (Dick) Leggett was probably born in 1922, being a year older than Jim Crawford. Therefore, he must have been aged about 14 when he joined the troop in April 1936. He might have transferred from another Troop as it is likely that he had previous Scouting experience. He attended the Troop's summer camps of 1936 and 1937 and was then promoted to S.P.L. of the Woodpigeon Patrol in 1938. Within 6 months he was promoted to P.L. of the Woodpigeons and was also given responsibility for the Troop's equipment. He was promoted to Troop Leader at the end of March 1939 and took over the Chairmanship of the Court of Honour. In November 1939, he took over the organisation of the Troop's wastepaper collections for the war effort. In September 1940, he resigned from the troop to join the RAF and rose to become a Squadron Leader. It is not known what he did after the war.

**MacDonald, Rev. Coll A.**

The Rev. Coll A. MacDonald (1873-1954) was the minister at Logierait Church when the 70<sup>th</sup> 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 (1913-46). He served as an army chaplain during the 1st World War. Given that he was a MacDonald, it was perhaps surprising that he married a Campbell. Nevertheless, it appears that he was happily married and had four sons. After he died in 1954, his ashes were taken to Iona- the place of his birth.

**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Preston, Commander**

During 1935 and 1936, Commander Preston was active in supporting the 70<sup>th</sup> in several ways. For example, on the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> May 1935, he helped transport camping equipment and personal kit to Everton for a weekend camp involving a dozen Scouts attending a Jubilee Camp which had been organized to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of King George V. On the 10<sup>th</sup> May 1935, he paid a visit to a Troop meeting. He paid another visit to the troop on the 8<sup>th</sup> November and donated two boxes of fireworks as prizes for a competition: the winners being Alistair McGregor and Brian Wickham. He paid further visits to troop meetings on the 31<sup>st</sup> January and the 21<sup>st</sup> February 1936. Finally, during the summer of 1936, he drove to visit the troop's summer camp at Ballinluig on the 7<sup>th</sup> August and took the Rev. Reid, Ian Dunlop and Rover Scout, Archie Brown to visit Blair Castle which had only recently been opened to the public. Unfortunately, it is not known who Commander Preston was or what kind of links he had with the troop. There was certainly no 70<sup>th</sup> Scout by the name of Preston, but there might have been a Wolf Cub of that name. Alternatively, he might have been asked to instruct the Scouts on a specialist skill such as signalling.

**Ramsey or Ramsay, David**

David Ramsay was born in 1924 and stayed in Margaret Street. He attended Greenock Academy and joined the 70<sup>th</sup> in January 1936. He was present at the Troop's Summer Camp that year, but he probably left the Troop fairly soon after that as he went to boarding school at Fettes. After school he became an accountant, then became a director at Yarrows Shipbuilders

**Reid, David.**

David Reid was the second of five sons fathered by the Rev. Reid and was born in Bombay about 1926. During his six years in Greenock, he was a pupil at Greenock Academy and picked up some prizes at the school's Sports Days. In 1933, he was in the junior 2 class (primary 2) and was second in the 100-yard sprint and egg and spoon race. In 1934, he was second in the 100 yards again. In 1936, he was third in the sack race. He also won the Fraser writing prize in 1935 and 1936. His brother Ronald recalls that both he and David were in the 70<sup>th</sup> Cubs. If so, they must have joined either at the start of the pack or very soon afterwards since the family moved to Glasgow in the summer of 1936. David became a minister, following in his father's footsteps.

**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 70<sup>th</sup>. Since Alan had been in the 5<sup>th</sup> Scouts, this suggests that Eoin may also have been in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Eoin may well have been one of the first PLs to be appointed in the 70<sup>th</sup>. 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 70<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.