

SCOUTS-L

**SCOUTING HISTORY
EARLY YEARS U.K.**

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Reply-To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List
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Sender: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List
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From: David B Strieby <davedave2@JUNO.COM>
Subject: Wood Badge -- The Raven
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>
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Indeed there are Ravens and in fact, a Raven patrol is one of the four patrol names chosen by B-P at Brownsea.

"Scouts Camp, Brownsea Island, Poole

August 1, 1907

The next morning B-P formed the 21 boys who were to test his scheme into 4 patrols, one of 6 boys and the other of 5 boys, each patrol with a name from the animal kingdom -- the world's first Boy Scouts in the world's first Boy Scout patrols in the world's first Boy Scout camp:

CURLEWS. Musgrave Wroughton, patrol leader; Cedric Curteis; John Evans-Lombe; Percy Medway; Reginald Giles; Simon Rodney.

BULLS. Thomas Evans-Lombe, patrol leader; Arthur Primmer; Albert Blandford; James Rodney; marc Noble.

WOLVES. George Rodney, patrol leader, Herbert Watts; J. Alen Vivian; Terence Bonfield; Richard Grant.

RAVENS. Herbert Emley, patrol leader; Ethelbert Tarrent; Herbert Collingbourne; William Rodney; Humphrey Noble.

Each was provided with a shoulder-knot, a long streamer of brightly colored tape, to indicate the patrol to which he belonged: yellow for the Curlews, red for the Ravens, blue for the Wolves, green for the Bulls. The patrol leaders each sported a short staff with a white flag with a picture of the patrol animal painted by B-P.

They had the further distinction of wearing the fleur-de-lys badge on the front of their hats -- that badge that B-P had used for his army scouts and which, soon, slightly modified, would become known the world over as the Scout badge."

Source: "Baden-Powell: The Two Lives of a Hero" by William Hillcourt.

In 1919 the first Scouters training course was held at Gilwell. Several days after the completion of the course at a dinner at the Scout Restaurant in Buckingham Palace Road, B-P presented each of the members with two beads from the necklace he had captured from Chief Dinizulu, a Zulu warrior chief, while he was in Africa in the 1880's.

The Camp Chief of Gilwell Park (England) wears a necklace of six original beads which B-P first presented to Sir Percy Everett as a tribute for his help in launching Scouting and help at the first scout camp at Brownsea Island in 1907. Sir Percy presented the necklace to John Thurman and suggested it be worn as the badge of office of the Camp Chief, Gilwell Park.

Source: THE WOGGLE, Volume 76 Issue 1 (February 1993).

I have never seen a documented list of patrol names (if indeed patrols were used) at that first Scouters training course in 1919. I'd be interested in anything anyone may have on the subject. In any event, the Raven patrol name is a legend in Scouting history and it's too bad that more Raven patrols are not used in Wood Badge.

Good Scouting,

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Dave Strieby

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"I used to be a Raven and a good old Raven, too." NE-I-176-29.

". . . Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'"