

"Proteus"

Birmingham Road,

DIEP RIVER.

18th. September 1929.

My dear Gillwell Scout,

The first reunion of "Gillcape" takes place on Saturday and Sunday, the 28th and 29th September.

Whatever you learnt when you took your course was for the benefit of the boys in your charge. The Reunion will show you the other side of Gillwell - the troop whose scarf you wear. Since we all made new friendships on the Training Ground, much water has flowed under the bridge of time, and we have much to talk about.

We look forward to meeting, and sincerely trust that there will be no vacant chair.

In order that the organisation may be complete will you first and foremost notify me whether you will attend or not.

The Reunion begins on Saturday at 4 p.m. and, closes on Sunday at 5p.m.

The programme is a skeleton, and we would appreciate your help in filling it up before the reunion begins. We require four half-hour items either demonstration or talks. Please do us the favour of volunteering an item if you can and giving me the title early so that I may have copies of the programme made.

Items for the Camp Fire are also necessary and District items would be particularly acceptable.

Expenses of Reunion will be covered by the usual charge of 5/- for the week-end. Personal kit - including blankets and groundsheet are all you require to bring (notebooks are unnecessary!)

Frequent buses now run to Diep River and put you down within 100 yards of the Training Ground. If you do not know your way, come along with someone who does.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

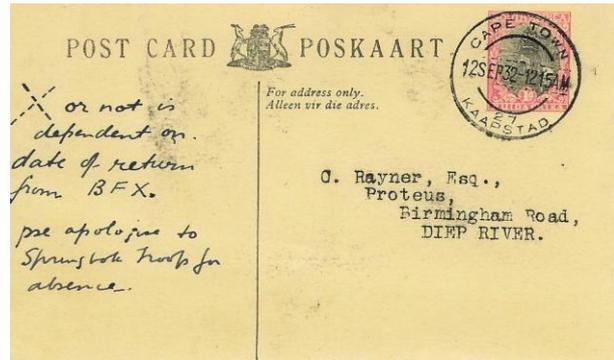
CARL RAYNER.

D. C. C.

Some snippets from the early Gilwell reunions

An interesting facet of the early Gilwell reunions was that included in your invitation was a Post Card that you returned to Carl Rayner to confirm your attendance.

Later on also indicating for catering purposes which meals you would be requiring as these were two day events, usually 4pm Saturday to 4pm Sunday.



Here are some of the reverse sides of Carl's post cards where one would indicate your acceptance. It was also a requirement that you signed the card!

In 1932 (4th reunion) a hat peg was used and one had to cross out the one which does not apply, sign it, and post it

- The peg without a hat means 'I cannot come'
- The peg with a hat means 'I shall be there'

The usual charge of 5/- per head will be made



In 1933 (5th reunion) you were asked to 'Just draw your pen through the wigwam that does not apply'. And 'Do not forget to sign it'.

- Closed wigwam, will not be present
- Inhabited one means what we hope



In 1935 (7th reunion) it was a billy. Please let us know per the enclosed card whether to:

- Put the billy on the fire for you, or
- Leave it on the post and mourn your absence

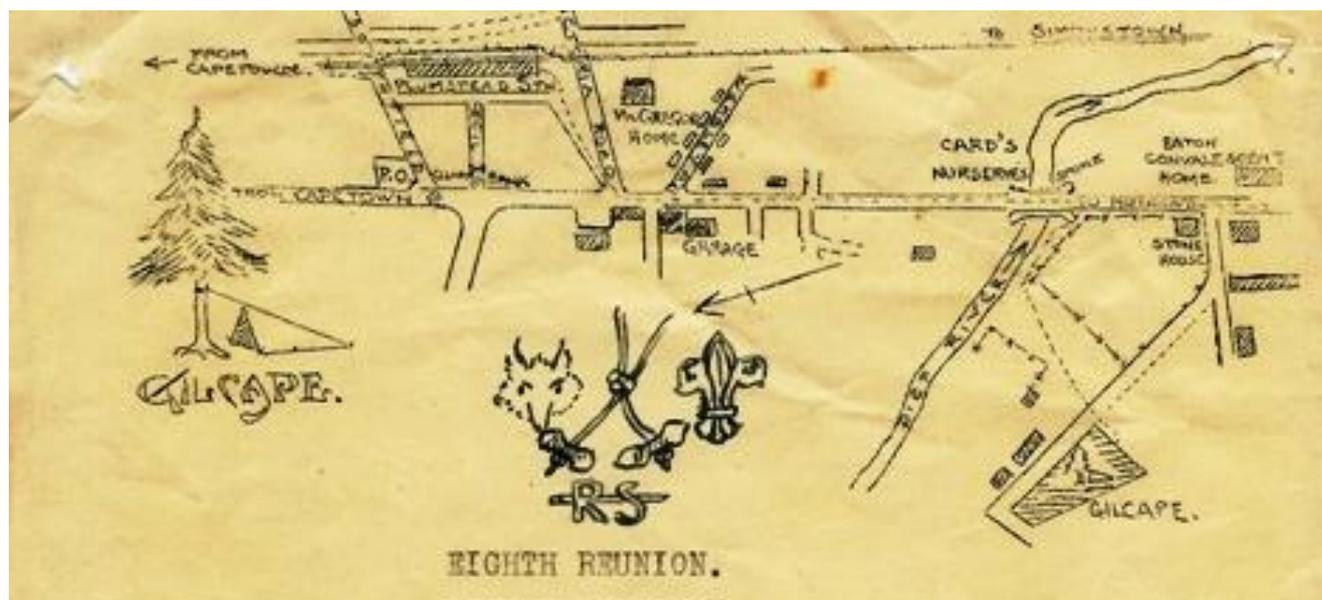


In 1936 (8th reunion) the billy's were used to indicate at which meals you would be present.

- If you are not there for the whole camp, place a cross on the billy indicating which meals you will require.



The programme for the Eighth reunion in 1936



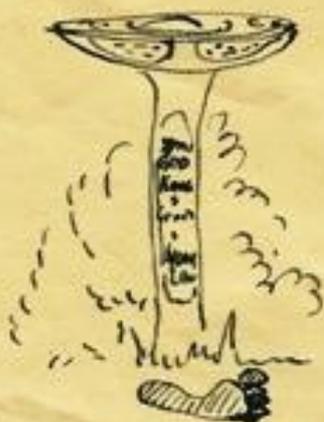
Saturday, 10, October, 1936.

- 1600 Tea, and Greetings.
- 1630 Introduction to new Gilcape.
- 1700 Games.
- 1730 General Pow-wow, and preparations for Camp Fire.
- 1830 Off for supper.
- 2000 Camp Fire.
- 2230 Lights Out.



Sunday, 11, October, 1936.

- 0930 Morning Inspection.
- 1000 Pack meets at Council Rock.
- Troop meets at Game Reserve.
- 1100 "The Forced Landing."
- 1200 Off for Lunch.
- 1400 Scouts Own.
- 1430 Footprints.
- 1500 Talk on Handicrafts in Rover Den.
- 1530 Open Session including Tea.
- 1630 Au Revoir.



Cooks for each meal will be chosen by drawing lots.
 Duties for Scouts Own will be arranged at 1830 Sat.

The programme for the 12th reunion in 1946

12th
Reunion

Saturday, 7th Sept, 1946.

Programme

1500 Stand Easy. Meet old friends. Look round camp.
A Wood Badge Investiture.

1600 Tea. (Or coffee. Depends on which you make
for yourself)

1620 Official Reunion.
(a) D.C.C.'s yarn.
(b) Prayer.
(c) Parade of Troop
Grand Howl by Pack.

1700 New Footprints.

1715 The Brown Six and Owls will run a game for
10 minutes.

1725 Scout Problems of 1946 : The new rules and
Senior Scouts.
The 1947 International Jamboree.

1745 The Grey Six and Woodpigeon Patrol will run a
game for 10 minutes.

1755 The Black Six and Bok-ma-kieri patrol will run
a game for 10 minutes.

1805 Prepare supper and camp fire.

1830 Flag Down.

1835 Supper in Den.

2000 Camp Fire.
A selection of the old choruses and stunts.
In addition, each six and/or patrol will
have a ten minute period to fill.

2200 Au Revoir. Tot siens.

1946