

Philately Corner

The Centenary of Scouting (1907 - 2007) stamps released on July 9 to mark the foundation of the Scouting movement worldwide consists of four postage stamps and a Souvenir Sheet.

Although founded in 1907 by Lord Robert Baden-Powell, Scouting came to Jamaica in 1910, with the first troop being started in Brown's Town, St Ann, by the Rev J W Graham.

The stamps are issued in the following denominations: \$5.00, \$10.00, \$30.00, \$50.00, \$70.00 and \$100.00. One exceptional design element is that the \$50 and \$100 stamps form part of the Souvenir Sheet which has as its background, a montage of an array of flags from a variety of countries and interlocked Scouts' hands depicting the many races and countries involved in Scouting across the globe. Additionally, First Day Covers are available for \$265.00, and a special Souvenir Sheet First Day Cover will also be offered at a price of \$300.00.

The stamps are sold at all post offices and the philatelic items may be purchased at the Philatelic sales outlets at these post offices: Central Sorting Office, Liguanea, Ocho Rios, Montego Bay and at the Norman Manley International Airport.



Centenary of Scouting Souvenir Sheet includes a \$50 and \$100 stamp



\$5 Scout stamp



\$10 Scout stamp



\$70 Scout stamp



Philatelic Term: 'OMNIBUS'

The Centenary of Scouting stamps shown are part of an omnibus series with a universal release date. In philately, an 'omnibus' series is a set of stamps done by many nations to highlight the same event. The first omnibus issue was done by Portugal and her colonies in 1898 to commemorate the quarter century of Vasco da Gama's exposure of another sea route to India. Philatelists (stamp enthusiasts) tend to seek to collect as many as possible of the variety of stamps issued by those nations involved in that release.